

Sunday Service ~ July 6, 2025

Service for Swansea & Charlestown Presbyterian Church

Welcome & Prayer

"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. ² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? ³ My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me all day long, "Where is your God?" ⁴ These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng. ⁵ Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Saviour and my God." (Psalm 42:1-5, NIV)

Let us pray.... Dear Lord, our soul pants for you this morning. We long to be in your presence. We long to worship you with others in person but today we can't, despite all our good intentions and so we come to you by ourselves this morning or with our family around us. We need you. We need you like we need our food and drink. We need your presence, your forgiveness, your love, your grace, your help and power. So give us more of you today. Let us see more of your glory as we sing our songs. Let us hear more your character as we listen to your word. Let us experience more of your goodness as we pray. And draw us closer to your people as we sing the same song, pray the same prayers, listen to the same sermon, even if we are in different locations today. Help us this day to truly worship you in spirit and in truth. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Song – Praise 96 [Psalm 96 Praise - YouTube](#)

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sing unto the Lord a new song
Sing unto the Lord all the earth
Sing to the Lord, bless his name
Tell of his salvation day by day. 2. Majesty and honour are his
Strength and beauty, glory and righteousness
Great is the Lord, and deserving of praise
He is to be feared above all gods. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Let all the creation be glad
The earth and the sea sing for joy
Before the Lord, the judge of the earth
Who judges us in righteousness and truth. |
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Chorus Worship the Lord in holy array
Tremble before him all the earth
Our God reigns.

Bible Reading – John 11:1-37 (NIV)

11 Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 2 (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) 3 So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick." 4 When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." 5 Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. 6 So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, 7 and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea." 8 "But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?" 9 Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world's light. 10 It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light." 11 After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up." 12 His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." 13 Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. 14 So

then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, 15 and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." 16 Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." 17 On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. 18 Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, 19 and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. 20 When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. 21 "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask." 23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." 24 Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." 25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; 26 and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" 27 "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world." 28 After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. "The Teacher is here," she said, "and is asking for you." 29 When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. 30 Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. 31 When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. 32 When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." 33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. 34 "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied. 35 Jesus wept. 36 Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" 37 But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Announcements

Focus for Month: Hospitality. Matthew 25:34-46 - 34 Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison & you came to me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 38 And when did we see you a stranger & welcome you, or naked & clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison & visit you?' 40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

NSW Public School Holidays. All regular activities of the Church will be in recess for the next two weeks. Why not spend the extra time by inviting someone into your home?

Kids Church on Break During School Holidays Please note that Kids Church will be taking a break during the school holidays. This also includes Sprouts (creche). Regular programs will resume on the first Sunday of term 27/7. We encourage families to enjoy worship together at Charlestown Public School during this time. Activity packs will be available for children.

New City Catechism: Question 28. What happens after death to those not united to Christ by faith? At the day of judgment, they will receive the fearful but just sentence of condemnation pronounced against them. They will be cast out from the favourable presence of God, into hell, to be justly & grievously punished, forever. Bible Passage: John 3:16-18, 36.

Study Leave. Stephen is away on study leave this week. If you need any pastoral assistance, can you please ring Audric.

Sermon Series for Term 3 (AM Services only) (If room)

This sermon series, "**God is...**," invites us to lift our eyes and know God as He has revealed Himself in the Bible. From His utter incomparability and triune nature to His holiness, goodness, and love, we see a God who is glorious, gracious, and worthy of all worship. As we behold who God is, we are transformed in how we live, love, and trust Him.

20.7 God is incomparable Isaiah 40:12-31

27.7 God is trinity John 14:15-31

3.8	God is holy	Isaiah 6:1-7
10.8	God is good	Psalms 145:8-21
17.8	God is love	1 John 4:7-12

Vanuatu Short Term Mission Trip. If you are interested in a 2-week mission trip to Vanuatu in early January 2026, then please talk to either Stephen T or Cheryl G. Final numbers will be decided upon by the end of October.

Pastoral Prayer

Pray for Niger (Population 28 million, Christians 69,000). The situation for Christians worsened after the July 2023 coup, when General Abdourahamane Tiani, head of the presidential guard unit, declared himself Niger's new leader. In areas under militant control, church services and other events are carried out under the shadow of potential violence or physical attack. Ask God to bring order to chaos, preventing extremists from taking power or territory. Ask God to protect Christians from Islamist attacks. Pray especially for young converts from Islam who face rejection and oppression from their families and communities.

Pray for TEAR Fund. Pray for God's mercy on the mainly Muslim Rohingya ethnic group. Since 1982, the Buddhist population of Myanmar has been trying to wipe out the Rohingya people. More than 1.1 million Rohingya refugees (75% of them women and children) live in refugee camps in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Please ask for the light of the gospel to shine in this cramped and difficult place.

Thank God for what we have learnt this last term. Praise the Lord for the lessons we were taught in the church services, creche, kids church, Junior Youth, IMPACT and Home Groups. Pray that we will grow in knowledge and in love, that it will affect our head and our heart. Pray a special blessing on those who have led us and taught us.

Pray for revival in our land. Gracious Father, we plead for a powerful work of your Spirit to awaken hearts across Australia to the glory of Christ and the truth of your Word. Turn many from spiritual apathy to deep repentance and faith, that your church might be renewed in holiness, love, and gospel boldness. May your name be honoured in this land as multitudes are brought from darkness into your marvellous light.

Bible Reading – John 11:38-44 (NIV)

³⁸ Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹ "Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days." ⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands & feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

Song – The Church One Foundation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCdASxyPIKE>

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|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The church's one Foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is His new creation,
by water and the Word;
from heav'n He came and sought her
to be His holy bride;
with His own blood He bought her,
and for her life He died. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3 Tho' with a scornful wonder,
men see her sore oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping,
their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song. |
|---|---|

2. Elect from ev'ry nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation,
one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy Name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with ev'ry grace endued.

4. Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with Thee

Sermon – Martha: Believing Jesus (John H)

Video link: <https://youtu.be/04A2sPe1zgo>

Intro: In a couple of weeks' time Stephen is starting a new sermon series about God — who is God? so it's good to start thinking about what we believe about God. What do we really believe? This sermon today might help us prepare for that sermon series because it's about believing — believing in Jesus and believing Jesus — and we're looking at what we can learn about believing from the encounter between Jesus and Martha at the tomb of Lazarus.

Prayer

Years ago, for some unknown reason, I was asked to play a lead role in church drama, which was performed during a Sunday morning service. My role was to play a man who was in hospital, dying. I had to lie on a hospital bed as the other actors playing doctors and nurses were applying those electric paddles trying to keep me alive. On queue I had to sort of 'jump' off the bed as the electricity coursed through my body. This happened a number of times but to no avail — they couldn't save me, I died.

Then, after my death, I had to rise up off the hospital bed gracefully and even 'floatingly' and act as if I was in heaven and seeing for the first time the beauty and the wonder of it all. I had to act in a state of absolute awe and joy at being in heaven and in the presence of Almighty God.

Well, in rehearsal, I was ok at acting as a dying man. We only needed a couple of rehearsals to get that part right. But acting as if I was now "alive" again in heaven took a lot of practice, repeating it over and over again. I found it really difficult to convince the director of the play that I was alive again and in heaven, full of awe and joy. For me, it was a lot easier playing dead than playing alive again.

I've thought about this many times over the years and I wonder if the reason I struggled to conjure up the awe and joy I will experience as I imagined myself in heaven, is because I didn't really appreciate the awe and joy I should have now as a Christian. Maybe I didn't really appreciate the new life that I have now in Christ.

In John 3 Jesus said that we must be born again and in 2 Corinthians 5:17 Paul wrote that, "if anyone is in Christ, he [or she] is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." And in Romans 6:11 Paul said that we "must consider ourselves dead to sin [i.e. dead to the old life] and alive to God in Christ Jesus."

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Paul was saying that when we become a Christian we start living a new life, a life lived with God. And that it should, actually must, be different than the life we were living before we were a

Christian.

Slide 1

Today we are looking at the story of Lazarus and I wonder how Lazarus felt after he was raised from the dead. I wonder if he was full of awe and joy now that he was alive again. I wonder if it changed his life. I wonder if he lived differently after his raising than he did before.

We don't know much about Lazarus, but we do know that the Jewish leaders wanted to kill him (John 12:9-11) after he was raised because he became a powerful witness to Jesus, and many Jews were believing in Jesus because of Lazarus. Maybe this is a clue to a change that may have taken place in Lazarus, who prior to his death was a good friend of Jesus, but after he was raised with new life became a powerful witness for Jesus.

It's interesting that we don't know much about Lazarus considering that he was a good friend of Jesus and that he was the object of possibly Jesus' greatest miracle, but maybe this is intentional, maybe John 11 is not so much about Lazarus, but more about his sister Martha; and about believing Jesus, really believing Jesus.

So let's look at what we can learn from the encounter between Jesus and Martha; what Jesus said to her and how she responded to him. Let's pick up the story at verse 17.

Slide 2

John 11:17-27 Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus,

"Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he [or she] die, yet shall he [or she] live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She [Martha] said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

This passage contains the word "believe(s)" four times, and I believe that Jesus used the event of the raising Lazarus from the dead and his encounter with Martha — to teach Martha and us about what our response to Jesus should be, and what true belief in Jesus really looks like. So let's do a stocktake, from this passage, of what Martha believed:

1. in verse 21, she believed Jesus could have healed Lazarus if he had been there,
2. in verse 22, she believed that God would give Jesus whatever he asked for,
3. in verse 24, she believed in the resurrection on the last day, as most Jews did,
4. in verse 27, she believed that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.

So, we can clearly see that Martha believed in God and had a wonderful faith in God, she believed so much about God and about Jesus. And Martha knew that Jesus was different, and special, because she said that God would give Jesus whatever he asked for.

But we need to be careful about who, at this point of time, she actually believed Jesus was. She called him "the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world". These terms were widely used to refer to the Messiah; and Martha may have used them in a similar way to what the

Apostle Nathaniel said when he first met Jesus in John 1:19, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!”

So, Martha, like Nathaniel, believed that Jesus was the Messiah, but she probably believed, at this point of time, that he was the sort of Messiah the majority of Jews were expecting, one that would somehow liberate them from the Romans and restore the Jewish nation.

So, Jesus decided to tell her exactly who he was and is when he told her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me shall live and never die.” When Jesus said “I am” he was unmistakably identifying himself as God because “I am” is the name of God. When God told Moses to go to the Israelites in Egypt, Moses asked what name he could use for God to tell the people that God had sent him, and God said, “I am who I am. Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I am has sent me to you.’” (Exodus 3:14)

And here, in John 11, Jesus was claiming to be one and the same as the “I am” of the Old Testament. Earlier, in John 8:58, after a long debate with some Pharisees about who he really was, Jesus said, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” The Pharisees knew what Jesus was claiming and wanted to stone him there and then because, to them, what Jesus had said was blasphemy.

But Jesus didn’t just refer to himself as “I am” in John 11, he also said to Martha “I am the resurrection and the life”. And to quote two commentators (R.C. Sproul & Colin Kruse), in saying this, he was saying that he has the keys of life and death; he has the power to raise dead people from the grave, just as he would with Lazarus; he has the power to bestow resurrection life on whoever he will; and he doesn’t just teach about resurrection; he is the resurrection. He said that whoever believes in him will not die spiritually but will have eternal life with him.

Jesus was encouraging, almost pleading with Martha, to believe this about him, and he asked her, “Do you believe this?” — “do you believe I am the resurrection and the life, do you believe I am the “I am?”” and she said “Yes, I believe it.” Jesus was asking Martha to not only believe something about him, but to believe him, to believe what Jesus said, to take him at his word, and Martha said she did. Let’s see what happens next, starting at verse 38.

Slide 3

John 11:38-44 Then Jesus ... came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odour, for he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Jesus performed arguably his most incredible and powerful miracle, which we could spend a long time looking at, but given we are focussing on the encounter between Jesus and Martha, let’s do another stocktake, from this passage, of what Martha believed:

1. in verse 39, when Jesus told them to roll away the stone, Martha said, “Lord, by this time there will be an odour, for he has been dead four days.” Lazarus had been dead for four days so his body had begun to decay; and also the Jews, including Martha, believed that his spirit would have departed. So Martha believed that there was no hope for Lazarus and not even God could

raise him back to life now.

And we know this is what Martha believed because Jesus then said to her, in verse 40, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?”

This was a stinging rebuke from Jesus. He was essentially saying that Martha didn’t believe, or didn’t believe enough. She didn’t really believe that he was the “I am, the resurrection and the life.” She didn’t really believe that he, that God could raise Lazarus to life again. She didn’t believe that Jesus was and is God. Not really, she didn’t really believe to the extent that Jesus was asking her to believe. She believed things about him, but didn’t really believe him.

I mentioned Moses before. In his story God fulfilled his promises and rescued his people from Egypt, using many signs and wonders and miracles. God bought the Israelites into the wilderness where they were relatively safe; but they weren’t happy, and they grumbled and complained against Moses and God, to the extent that they wanted to choose a new leader and go back to Egypt. And as they were about to stone Moses and Aaron and Joshua, “the glory of the Lord appeared at the tent of meeting to all the people of Israel. And the Lord said to Moses, “How long will this people despise me? And how long will they not believe in me, in spite of all the signs that I have done among them?”” (Numbers 14:1-11)

You can almost hear God’s frustration and disappointment in his words. He had done so much for his people and they had believed him to a point, when things were going well. But their belief was fickle, it ebbed and flowed, it wasn’t deep-rooted within them, they hadn’t allowed belief in God to be the rock-solid foundation of their lives. They, like Martha, had set limits on what they believed about God.

Now, maybe I’m being a bit harsh on Martha given she didn’t have the benefit of knowing what we know. On that day when she had that encounter with Jesus, he hadn’t yet raised Lazarus from the dead. And she didn’t have the benefit, on that day, of knowing that Jesus himself would die and rise again. She didn’t have the benefit of the New Testament, which is such a witness to the power, authority and divinity of Jesus. She didn’t have the benefit of all of that on which to base her faith and belief in Jesus.

But we do. We do! And yet, I wonder if we’re a bit like Martha, maybe even a bit like the Israelites in the wilderness. Do we really believe in God, do we really believe God?

Slide 4 - THE STONES

Martha’s belief in God, in Jesus, was confronted and challenged and constrained with the reality of the stone that laid across the grave of Lazarus. This stone is what kept the dead man separate from the living. But this stone was also a hindrance to her belief in Jesus, and to her believing Jesus; that he truly is the “I am, the resurrection and the life.” This stone was in the way of her truly believing that Jesus, that God, could do the impossible and raise a dead man back to life. And I wonder what “stones” inhibit us from truly believing in Jesus and truly believing Jesus. Believing in who he really is and believing what he said. And believing that he can do the impossible; that he not only created the universe, but that he can create a new life within us, that he can make us a new creation in him, to live a life of awe and joy and belief.

Slide 5

So, what are these stones that may inhibit us from believing Jesus? Well, it might be fear, pride, self-sufficiency, sin. It might our attraction to the world and what it promises in the way of treasure and pleasure. It might our education or other influences that have taught us to believe in ourselves more than God; or to reject objective truth and go with our own truths or with the flow of popular opinion and worldviews; or to embrace the notion that science has a better way of

revealing truth to us than God himself, through the Bible.

These stones get in the way of us embracing the level of belief in God that Jesus was teaching us, and demanding from us, during his encounter with Martha.

Jesus wants us to remove these stones from our life, that inhibit real belief in him. These stones need to be rolled away so that we can come out of the grave of the previous life we lived before we knew Jesus; and so that we can embrace the new life of belief that Jesus has made possible through his death and resurrection.

I'm going to switch analogies now, from the analogy of stones that can block and inhibit our belief in Jesus, to the analogy of a gate.

Slide 6 - THE GATE

Jesus told his disciples to "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few. (Matthew 7:13-14)

This analogy describes not only a narrow gate that we must enter by, but a way that lays beyond the gate. The gate is Jesus, who is the means of our salvation, and we can only enter into salvation through Jesus because he is the way, the truth and the life, and no one comes to the Father (God) except through Jesus (John 14:6).

And by entering the narrow gate of salvation through Jesus we can begin to walk the way of obedient belief in Jesus, which leads to life with Christ.

But I wonder if we sometimes stop and just hang around the gate. We enter the gate and we revel in what we have received through Jesus. We love being a Christian and claiming Jesus as our Lord and Saviour. We come to church and worship God. We may even read our Bibles and pray every day. We mingle and fellowship with others at the gate who have also received the promise of salvation from God.

And maybe we stick around the gate because Jesus said that the way beyond the gate that leads to life — is hard. Maybe we baulk at wanting to take those next steps on the way of obedient belief because we know they may lead us into trials and hardship because of what and who we believe. We may be criticised, rejected and even persecuted for what and who we believe. But by baulking, by not taking those next steps, by hanging around the gate and not embracing the new life on the way, are we not then missing out on the fullness of the life that Jesus promised us when he said ...?

Slide 7

... "I came that [you] may have life and have it abundantly." (John 10:10) So what can we do to learn from the encounter between Jesus and Martha? Maybe we can choose to do the following:

We can choose to truly believe that Jesus really is the "I am, the resurrection and the life" and that nothing is impossible with him. We can make that choice and truly believe it;
we can choose a life free from the stones that block and inhibit our complete and unconditional belief and trust in Jesus;
we can choose to walk through the narrow gate and along the narrow way and embrace the new and abundant life we have in Jesus;
we can choose to believe Jesus and his Word, the Bible, unconditionally.

Like Martha, Jesus is confronting us with a choice — to believe in him and to believe him above all else. And he has promised that when we do this we will experience a new and abundant life with

him, and we will see the glory of God.

So, in what ways can you choose to believe more in Jesus and to believe Jesus more today? What areas of your life could use a dose of real belief so that the life you are leading looks more like the new and abundant life of awe and joy that Jesus has promised you? What changes can you make to ensure that when you say to Jesus, "Yes, Lord, I believe", rather than him reply, "if you really had believed", he would say to you, "because you have believed, you will see the glory of God."

Slide 8

I'm going to finish with the words of a song by a Christian band called Newsboys. The song, "We Believe", encourages us to believe regardless of what's going on in the world and in our lives. This song is a call to make believing in God the foundation of our lives, even when things seem impossible. It's a call to believe that God has made you a new creation in him; that you have a new life with him filled with awe and joy. It's a call to believe in him and to believe him.

'WE BELIEVE' ~ NEWSBOYS

"In this time of desperation, when all we know is doubt and fear,
There is only one foundation, we believe, we believe.
In this broken generation, when all is dark, You help us see,
There is only one salvation, we believe, we believe.
We believe in God the Father, we believe in Jesus Christ,
We believe in the Holy Spirit, and He's given us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion, we believe that He conquered death,
We believe in the resurrection, and He's coming back again. We believe."
Amen

Song – This I believe <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nNiYUPsHgls>

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Our Father everlasting | Bridge |
| The all-creating One | I believe in You |
| God Almighty | I believe You rose again |
| Through your Holy Spirit | I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord |
| Conceiving Christ the Son | (Repeat) |
| Jesus our Saviour | |
|
I believe in God our Father | Chorus |
| I believe in Christ the Son | |
| I believe in the Holy Spirit | 3. I believe in life eternal |
| Our God is three in One | I believe in the virgin birth |
| I believe in the resurrection | I believe in the saints' communion |
| That we will rise again | And in Your Holy Church |
| For I believe in the Name of Jesus | I believe in the resurrection |
| (In the name o' Lord) | When Jesus comes again |
| | For I believe in the Name of Jesus |
| 2. Our Judge and our Defender | Chorus |
| Suffered and crucified | |
| Forgiveness is in You | |
| Descended into darkness | |
| You rose in glorious light | |
| Forever seated high | Chorus |

Benediction "25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; 26 and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

(John 11:25-26)