

Things to Know



Musings from the Word

John Gry, President

“When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted” (Mt 28.17).
I find this line fascinating for it brings into our horizon the reality of doubt. Here are the eleven, having experienced all that we have

read in Matthew’s gospel (and so much more), seen a resurrected Messiah, and now with him atop a familiar mountain...and their response initially is doubt. There is no chastisement. No shaming. No condemnation. There is doubt—and worship. This presents a dilemma for many. According to this passage those closest to Jesus could doubt and worship. What does this reveal about our way of understanding following Jesus? What does this suggest about the way we understand doubt? What does this suggest about the way we understand worship? And this follows Jesus’ resurrection. There can exist in the inner worlds of some of the eleven doubt despite resurrection. A post-resurrection world includes the presence of doubt. And yet, doubt does not have the last word. Worship does. And I am so encouraged by this. Following Jesus does not mean understanding all things. Following Jesus means living with unsettled questions. The presence of doubt does not indicate a lack of faith. I wonder if maturing in Jesus includes this capacity to live in the tension of doubt and worship. Experiencing the unfolding fullness of Jesus in life doesn’t eliminate questions but places us in powerful spaces to still worship while we carry the doubt. Jesus will speak into those doubts. He will remind us of mission while we wrestle with doubt. He will remind us authority does not reside in us but in Him. He will remind us that while these doubts may exist, questions may arise, wonder may atrophy, that we are not alone. He journeys with us. He remains. He abides. And we can go from that place of doubt and worship to minister to a society and world filled with doubts and self-worship. We can go.

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Musings from the Field

This past week a variably-sized group has been participating in Mission Akita. One of the bigger projects has been to build a stage in the bowl near Pine Lodge. Thanks Matt Healy and your team for moving that forward.



This past week arrived at Camp Akita were the top leaders of our summer camp ministry, led by ministry leader, Stacey DePluzer. I had the privilege to share a small bit with those leaders and to observe them prayerfully plan out the summer. Please pray for them and if you are interested in having your children/grandchildren attend, please visit this [site to register](#).



Finally, all church clerks, as you may be aware, we are happy to introduce our new Conference Clerk, Claudya Barrientos. She will assist strengthening our local church clerks on a part-time basis, which will eventually include various types of training. Welcome to the team, Claudya!



EGW

No man is excusable for being without financial ability. Of many a man it may be said, He is kind, amiable, generous, a good man and a Christian, but he is not qualified to manage his own business.

Special Testimonies B, p. 30

dyk

From Jacksonville, IL came Frank H. Hall, who invented the mechanical Braille writer in 1892.