

Chaplain Reflection – April 21-28, 2025  
Chaplain Jeremy Eubanks

The Gospel of Matthew ends a few weeks after the resurrection of Jesus, which Christians around the world celebrated this last weekend. Matthew shares this interesting phrase in Matthew 27:17 just before Jesus' final instructions are recorded. The phrase that has always struck me as interesting and is a reason both for hope and assurance to me, is the mentioning that some of those who saw Jesus after his resurrection "doubted."

These are the people who were tasked with Jesus' final words and saw someone alive who had once been dead. If you find that hard to believe, you are in good company – as some there were struggling with it.

But what has always given me hope about this passage is that Jesus doesn't condemn them for a lack of faith or for having some doubt. He just gives them a job to do.

One of the reasons that I think it's true, is that they write this about themselves. They don't write themselves as heroes, who knew it all along. They write so much of the story as guys who just couldn't grasp it, but still gravitated to Jesus.

I don't know your faith tradition, or if you have one. What I believe is that God continues to speak to and extend to those who struggle believing. The hope I find in the resurrection, is that this world is not the end of the story. The evil that has it's say today is not the final word. And even though there are days where it seems like evil is winning, I am reminded that the darkest day in history led to hope for the world.

Many of you deal with some of the worst our world offers on a regular basis, and I am sure there are times and circumstances that don't seem very hopeful. Yet you extend yourselves and give of your best to serve the people of our city. I pray not only for your safety, but for your wisdom as you engage in your work of administering justice. And I am certain that your work brings hope to many who need it.

I want you to know that you have a team of Chaplains that is praying for your safety; praying for your success; and praying for the guarding of your hearts and minds.

If you ever want to share a prayer request or visit with a chaplain, there is a 24 hour phone line covered by the chaplain on call. The number is **816-726-7729**  
May God bless you as you serve the people of this city.