



Doubting, Remembering, then Believing

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Voltaire, the French author, once commented that God created us in God's image, and ever since we have been trying to pay God back. When we fail to forgive, we may not believe that God forgives us. If we hate another person (or another nation), we may imagine that God agrees with us. "God is on our side," presumes that God is rooting only for our team. In other words, we tend to think of God being like us rather than discovering how we reflect God.

It is little wonder, then, that amid such confusing images we can find ourselves wondering who God is or even doubting God's existence. Yet faith of its nature tends to be sown with doubt simply because faith does not bring the kind of certainty we think science does. This week's Gospel tells how "the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they all saw him, they worshipped, but they doubted" (Matthew 28:16-17). From the beginning believers seemed to be inclined to uncertainty and doubt.

How then do we live in faith? The reading from Deuteronomy tells of Moses asking the people to remember how they had been freed from slavery in Egypt, how God had taught them and taken care of them. It is in remembering past blessings that we recognize a power at work greater than ourselves, a remembering that will lead to renewed faith. We are people who live with the promise of Jesus "to be with you always, to the end of the age." ●

Reflect

This week, perhaps you could spend some time remembering how God has worked in your life.

Go, therefore, and make
disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of
the Father, and of the Son, and
of the holy Spirit.

MATTHEW 28:19

