



Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

Jesus Gives Peace April 10-12, 2021

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

²⁸ Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

1. When you picture "peace" in your mind, what do you see? What is the opposite?
2. Are you feeling more like peace lately or more like the opposite? Why is that?
3. Consider all that the disciples had experienced from Maundy Thursday until Easter Sunday. What things might have contributed to their fear? (v. 19)
4. Agree or disagree: When Jesus said, "Peace be with you." he addressed the disciple's fears.
5. Give an example of how forgiveness can give you peace in your heart even if you don't have peace in the world around you.
6. What are some ways Thomas is like the other disciples? What are some ways he is different?
7. Thomas placed a burden of proof on God, that sane people do not place on other things in life. Can you think of modern examples of people placing an unusually difficult burden of proof on God?
8. John points out that our faith and our peace come from the Word of God. (v. 31) As a group list 4 ways you can hear more of God's Word this week than you did last week.
9. Jesus says we can share his peace by offering heaven's forgiveness to others on earth. Each person list someone who needs to hear that God forgives them.
10. Based on your study tonight, what is one helpful thing that might impact your upcoming week?