

SERMON OUTLINE John 20:19-23

Peace Be with You

REAL EVENTS (19)

REAL FEAR (19)

REAL RESPONSIBILITY (21)

As the Father Has Sent Me

Even So, I Am Sending You

REAL POWER (19)

REAL PEACE (19-20, 21)

REAL HELPER (22)

REAL FORGIVENESS (23)

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

In this passage we find John describing real historical events, real fear in the disciples, real power in Jesus, real responsibility, peace, and a Helper for the disciples, and real forgiveness for the world. In all these things we'll see that our charge is great and costly, but our help and reward are greater still. And as a result, the main takeaway is to boldly share the good news of Jesus with the world in the power of the Holy Spirit.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. What do you think is the most remarkable aspect of Jesus' resurrection and its immediate aftermath?
3. Are you ever tempted to think of the Gospels in merely allegorical or symbolic or spiritual (rather than historical) terms?
4. Why is it critical to believe in the historical reality and accuracy of the Gospel accounts of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection?
5. What is the most afraid you've ever been? How does that compare to what the disciples would have been feeling in v.19?
6. Does being sent by Jesus in the same way that Jesus was sent by the Father encourage, scare, overwhelm, or surprise you?
7. On a scale of 1-10, how much comfort do you find in the fact that locked doors can't stop Jesus?
8. How often do you genuinely feel the peace of Christ? When do you usually feel it most/least?
9. From John 14 and 16 we saw that the Spirit gives wisdom, remembrance, strength, conviction, glory, and peace. Which of these things do you consistently feel/not feel?
10. What do you think of the idea that in sharing or not sharing the gospel, you are forgiving or withholding forgiveness?
11. In what ways did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

12. Read the rest of John, chapters 20-21 and ask the Spirit to help you consider what it says and means with greater care.
13. Share the gospel! Share it in the peace, power, and Spirit of Jesus. Share it in the knowledge that God will use it to forgive!
14. Consider carefully some specific aspect of the historicity of Jesus' life on earth (the Roman Empire, Jewish culture, the empty tomb, crucifixion, the Pharisees and Sadducees, etc.).
15. Memorize three passages from the Bible on fear.
16. Write down the most significant examples you can find in John of the unmatched power of Jesus. Share what you find.
17. Meditate on Philippians 4:7.
18. Make a list of every aspect of the ministry of the Holy Spirit you can find (Grudem's Systematic Theology is a great help).
19. Ask two different people in your family or DG one thing they got from this sermon and how you can pray for them in light of it.
20. Ask God to show you one specific thing you ought to do differently as a result of this text or sermon and for someone to help.

PRAYER POINTS

21. Adoration. Praise God for His omnipotence, sovereignty, authority, wisdom, tri-unity, mercy, and grace. Praise God that He is peace, power, life, Lord, author, Father, forgiver, and life.
22. Confess. Confess any fear in you. Confess any forgiveness you've withheld (not shared the gospel). Confess your doubt in the promises or Word of God. Confess any anxiety you've experienced. Confess ways you've relied on your own strength.
23. Thanksgiving. Thank God for His peace, power, commissioning, Spirit, and forgiveness in your life. Thank God for a church that aims to proclaim and live out the whole counsel of God. Thank God for hearing our prayers.
24. Supplication. Ask God to fill our church with faith in God's promises of peace and fruitful ministry.