

Small Group Leader & Personal Bible Study

Memory Verse: John 20:21

“Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

Discovery Bible Study Exercise: In your journal or on a piece of paper make three columns and follow these steps:

- Step #1: Write out John 20:21
- Step #2: Re-write John 20:21 in your own words
- Step #3: Write out what you discover from Jesus in this passage?

Daily Bible Meditation: He Is Risen

- Day 1 – Mark 16:1-20
- Day 2 – Luke 24:1-35
- Day 3 – Luke 24:36-53
- Day 4 – John 20:1-18
- Day 5 – John 20:19-31

Lesson: Peace from Jesus Christ

1. Read Mark 16:1-11. What emotions would you have felt if you had been with Mary, the first to find the empty tomb?
I am certain fear and anger would have been first. I would be offended that not only do they kill my friend but now take his body. I also would wonder if I was even safe to be at the tomb. Then, upon hearing he has risen, the skeptic would come out in me and I would be filled with doubt. Finally, upon having Jesus reveal himself to me I would become sad, worried, and embarrassed for not believing in Him.

Life is a lot like that. We try to defend God when He doesn't need us to defend him. Or we get afraid of others because of our Lord when we have nothing to fear when God is for us. We spend our lives trying to reason scripture and bend it to fit what makes sense to the world only to find the truth. Then, we are worried God won't forgive us or we are embarrassed about our own weaknesses. Thank God, He can handle all of our mistakes!
2. What greeting does Jesus use to address His disciples after His resurrection?
(Read John 20:19, 20:21, and 20:26)
Jesus says, “Peace Be with You” three times. Although this is a common greeting, it came at a very uncommon time.
3. What is the significance of Jesus' greeting? Do you think this greeting is what the disciples might have expected?
The disciples had let him down, betrayed or at least fled from his side. Not believed. Not stood strong in prayer. They needed the peace of Christ but I doubt they expected to receive it. In saying these words He is giving them a break. A needed rest! A message of peace with God! Nothing to fear! No need to worry anymore.
4. How would you explain the peace that Jesus offers? What scriptures would help you explain that peace?
Being able to share from the heart with someone about the peace with God we have in Jesus is important. Allow each person in your group to share from the heart what that peace is to them. Allow them to share a scripture that tells about that peace.
(Scriptures that may help explain include: Romans 5:1-2, Colossians 1:19-20, Ephesians 2:14-18)