

## **God Would Like Us to Continue Believing in the Risen Lord and Have Life**

Scriptures: John 20:19-30; Text: John 20:31

April 24, 2022

### **Outline:**

#### **I. Introduction**

- A. Story of a Little Boy – “Get Those Germs Off!”
- B. It's hard to believe without seeing.

#### **II. Jesus Appears to His Disciples**

- A. Fear paralyzes faith
  - i. Fearful disciples were together behind locked doors, v. 19
  - ii. Jesus did not want his disciple to keep them in suspense; he showed up and breathed Holy Spirit on them (v. 20-23)
  - iii. Do not indulge in fear
- B. Christ's Spirit Comforts Us: The story of a little girl
- C. Jesus performs a miracle in Bethany to foreshadow his resurrection.

#### **III. Jesus Demonstrates His Divinity**

- A. The Lord wants his disciples to believe in his resurrection
- B. His Assurance, “Peace be with you!”
- C. Christ charges his apostles: "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you" (John 20:21)
- D. Christ's full authority and office work through his apostles

#### **IV. Jesus Appears to Thomas**

- A. Other disciples witnessed Thomas, but he did not believe and sought hard proofs (v.24-25)
  - i. Jesus stood among disciples and asked Thomas, “Put your finger...stop doubting and believe,”
  - ii. Do not become unbelieving (apistos) but believing (pistos)
- B. Thomas uttered the most extraordinary confession: "My Lord and my God" (v. 27-28)
- C. Some practical implications

- i. Thomas' story could be a gift for people today.
- ii. Mother Teresa was tempted to give up.
- iii. We need to continue believing and helping people to believe.

## V. Why Did John Write His Gospel?

- A. Jesus did many other signs in the presence of disciples; they are not recorded in John's book (v. 30)
- B. The Good News: "...Believe that Jesus is Messiah, the Son of God and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31)

## VI. Conclusion:

- A. Jesus said, "Blessed are those who don't see, yet they believe!" (John 20:29a)
- B. Continue believing in the name of Jesus, Messiah, and the Son of God and have life and proclaim the Gospel.

## Main Theme:

The resurrected Jesus wanted to have a relationship with his disciples. The Risen Lord Jesus breathed on his followers and said, "Receive the Spirit." The union of the resurrected Lord and his disciples occurred through the Holy Spirit. The disciples received the Spirit. They experienced the living presence of Christ when they were filled with the Holy Spirit. When Christ is at work within us, the Spirit-led renewal takes place within us. When we receive the Holy Spirit, we are empowered by it, and then we begin to go and witness Christ to our friends, families, and neighbors in our community.

## Questions/Answers:

1. What was Martha's response (See John 11:25-26) when Jesus said, "Do you believe this?"
2. Who is the Supreme Teacher of the Church, and who forgives sins?  
The Lord\_\_\_\_\_. The salvation of men consists of \_\_\_\_\_of sins.
3. Jesus breathed on them and said, "Receive the \_\_\_\_\_." (See John 20:22)  
The full power of the \_\_\_\_\_came on the Day of\_\_\_\_\_and renewed the disciples.
4. So Christ himself gave the apostles, \_\_\_\_\_, evangelists, \_\_\_\_\_,and teachers to equip his people for \_\_\_\_\_so that the body of Christ may be built up (See Eph. 4:11)
5. Jesus said to Thomas,"Stop \_\_\_\_\_ and believe" (See John 20:27b).  
In Greek it literally means do not become unbelieving but \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Then Jesus told Thomas, "Because you have \_\_\_\_\_me you have believed; blessed are those who have not \_\_\_\_\_ yet have \_\_\_\_\_." (See John 20:29)
7. Why did John write his Gospel? (See John 20:31)  
But these things are written that you may \_\_\_\_\_ that Jesus is Messiah, the \_\_\_\_\_ and that by believing you have \_\_\_\_\_ in his name.