

Grow Group Sermon Summary and Discussion Guide

Speaker: Pastor CJ

Title: The Peace of Pentecost

Series: According to John

Text: John 20

Summary:

- The resurrection is central to the Gospel story.
- Jesus' resurrection fulfills God's promise and opens the way for redemption.
- Faith is not always perfect understanding; sometimes it is simply staying close to Jesus even in grief and confusion.
- 3 Revelations & 3 Responses
 - Mary Magdalene
 - Met by Jesus personally and intimately in her grief
 - Disciples
 - Met by Jesus with peace in their fear
 - Thomas
 - Met by Jesus with peace in his doubts
- Faith is trusting Jesus even without physically seeing Him.
- Each person comes to faith differently, and Jesus meets people where they are.
- Pentecost and the Holy Spirit
 - Jesus breathed on the disciples and gave them the Holy Spirit.
 - This fulfilled His earlier promise in John 14.
 - The Holy Spirit brings peace, guidance, and empowerment.
- Pentecost and Babel
 - Humanity's pride led to division and confusion.
 - Language became a barrier between people.
 - The Holy Spirit brought understanding and unity.

- People from different nations could understand one another.
- Jesus reveals Himself differently to different people.
- Faith can exist even in grief, fear, or doubt.
- The peace of Pentecost is not just a feeling — the peace is Jesus Himself.
- Followers of Jesus are called to share His love, forgiveness, and peace with the world.
- The resurrection is not just about one moment in history; it is about the ongoing redemption of all creation.

Discussion Guide

**These are questions to guide you and your conversation; feel free to lean into where the Holy Spirit is leading your group, even if it means skipping over some of the questions below.

1. Have someone pray before you begin and ask God to give you understanding as you study His word.
2. Icebreaker – What’s something that brings you peace after a difficult or stressful week?
3. Read John 20
 - a. What stood out to you? Why?
 - i. This does not always have to be an answer; it can be a question or concern that can be discussed and answered by other people in your group.
4. Have you ever experienced God meeting you personally in a difficult season?
5. What fears or anxieties do you need Jesus to speak peace into today?
6. How has God met you in seasons of doubt or uncertainty?
7. Which person in this passage do you relate to most right now (Mary, the disciples, or Thomas)?
8. Where do you see division in the world today?
9. How can Christians reflect the peace and unity of Jesus?
10. What does it look like for you to live in the peace of Jesus this week?
11. What is one takeaway from this passage that you want to live out this week?
12. How can we reflect the love and peace of Christ in our community?
13. Take some time at the end to pray for each other.