

SERMON NOTES

The Peacemaker
Easter April 17, 2022

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John 20:19-20 NIV

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.

Sermon Premise: Jesus is a peace-bringer.

Question: Where does "PEACE" come from?

"Many people think excitement is happiness.... But when you are excited you are not peaceful. True happiness is based on peace."

Peace: a state of tranquility or quiet or an end to hostilities.

- **Greek:** *eirēnē* (from *eirō*, "to join, tie together into a whole") – properly, *wholeness*, i.e. when all essential parts are joined together; *peace* (God's gift of *wholeness*).

1. **Unlocking Fear: Vs. 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.

- Jesus did not unlock fear, he appeared and stood in the midst of it.
- Jesus offered peace but did not vanquish the reason for their fear.

2. **Peace Offering: Vs. 19b** Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

- Of all the possible first statements Jesus could have said to his disciples after rising from the dead, he chose to say, "Peace".
- Jesus did not say, peace be to the world. He said, "peace be with you!"
- The nail scarred hand and feet of Jesus were displayed as the proof of a peace treaty with God.

Practical Takeaways: What would you wager for the chance at peace?

Small Group Questions:

1. Does our society value peace?