

**Fix Your Eyes on Jesus at Prayer: "Peace Be With You"**

*Focus Passage: John 20:19–21*

*Other Passages Referenced: John 14:27; 16:33; Acts 1:8; Ephesians 2:10; Revelation 1:4–6*

**Sermon Recap**

Where do we go to find peace? Sometimes it can be found in the quiet, but other times in the noise. Where do we go to find peace? Jesus gives us HIS peace. It is something we receive from Him. Receiving Jesus' peace is like two sides of the same coin.

**To receive Jesus' peace, we must receive Jesus.**

Jesus offers his peace and then shows the disciples the wounds in his body from the cross. He has tied his identification back to John 1 as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the World. In order to receive this peace, it is necessary to receive Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the World.

Our failures can rob us of our peace. To prevent that, we need to let confession and assurance of forgiveness lead us back to peace. If we are holding on to our sins and our failures, we will not experience that peace.

**To receive Jesus' peace, we must receive His mission.**

Jesus identifies himself as being sent by God the Father, and He sends His followers in the same way. Where Jesus sends us may be scary. He shows us his wounds to remind us of what He was sent to. Jesus sends us to hard work for God's kingdom; but we will experience God's power, joy, and peace as we receive Jesus and His mission.

He has redeemed you and he is sending you! Where is Jesus sending you? He has specific work in mind for you, works that he has created in advance for you to do. God is the good shepherd who speaks in a way that His sheep can hear. Listen to where He is sending. Will you find a friend who will ask you regularly, "How is the sending going?"

Peace from Jesus is not lost in the quiet or in the noise. His peace is given to us when we receive the lamb of God and when we receive his mission.

**Group Gathering**

**Group Check-in** — Care, Celebration, Encouragement (About 1/3 of meeting time)

1. Informal conversation to allow individuals to catch up with one another.
2. Discuss how it went as everyone tried to take steps of obedience to what they sensed God saying to them.

**Allow the Word to Speak** — Be Hearers of the Word (About 1/3 of meeting time)

**READ John 20:19–21**

1. What from the passage or sermon was most impactful to you?

2. Were you left with any questions or confusion about the passage or sermon?
3. How would you interpret the emotional state of the disciples from John 20:19?
4. How does the way the Father sent Jesus translate into how Jesus sends His disciples?

**Put the Word into Practice** — Be Doers of the Word (About 1/3 of meeting time)

1. Are there any sins or failures in your life for which you struggle to have assurance of forgiveness? Reflect on Revelation 1:4–6. How do those truths impact your peace?
2. Do you have a specific sense of direction as to where/how Jesus is sending you as the Father sent Him? Please be ready to explain to your group or to another person.
3. If you have a sense of being sent, how are you currently responding to that calling? If you do not have a sense of being sent, will you spend time asking the LORD to make it clearer to you?
4. Will you ask someone you trust to ask you regularly, “How are you doing with the sending?”
5. If you are lacking peace, could it be that you have not received Jesus as the Lamb of God and/or that you have not received His mission to be sent on His behalf? If that is a possibility, please talk about it with your small group leader, or contact Dale South [dsouth@wcchapel.org](mailto:dsouth@wcchapel.org) or one of the other pastors.

**The Big Question:** What do you sense God's Spirit saying to you and what concrete action will you take in response? Share your answer with the group or another trusted Christian and ask them to pray for you.

**SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES:**

- The Chapel will host the Community of Faith Mission’s homeless shelter January 10 – February 7. You may find more information and a sign-up [here](#).
- Other opportunities to serve during the Christmas season at the Chapel, with Grove Christian Outreach, and The Salvation Army, or to participate in a Red Cross blood drive at the Chapel can be found [here](#).

**Further Resources** – Illustrations and quotes from the sermon can be found on the “Sermon Slides” link at the bottom of [www.wcchapel.org](http://www.wcchapel.org)