

From Meetings to Mission

A post-Easter study of John 20-21



A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Series Theme: From Meetings to Mission
Text for the Week: John 20:30-31
Message for the Week: Evidence that Demands a Response
Theme for the Week: That You Might Believe

Week #4

Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

Which miracle of Jesus is your favorite? Why?

Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

Read:

Read / Have two people in your group read [John 20:30-31](#) out loud.

[Clicking this link will bring you to multiple translations.]

As you read and/or listen to the text being read, circle, take note of, highlight, or underline what words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them with those who are with you.

Respond / Reflect:

What signs and wonders has God done in your presence that you are talking about and passing on to the rest of the world?

Do you (plural) believe that Jesus is the Messiah and is the Son of God? Do you have life in His name? What in your life is different on account of what you believe about Jesus?

What do you make of the odds (the astronomical odds of 1 in 10^{157}) that anyone other than Jesus could fulfill 48 of over 300 Old Testament prophecies about Messiah?

What is the difference between becoming a believer and being a believer? How does your “believing” show in the daily decisions you make?

Why do you think it was important for Jesus to do miracles?

“Try It!”

Identify some different experiences and events in your life when the identity and mission of Jesus became real...signs and wonders and events that enabled you to believe Jesus is who He says He is. Share one or more of these stories with someone. Pass them on to the rest of the world.

Write your own belief statement articulating what you believe about Jesus Christ. Share it with someone.

Prayer:

Spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you. Pray this prayer together:

Father, thank you for raising Jesus from the dead – for comforting Mary in her distress, for offering peace to the panicked disciples, for meeting Thomas in his wonderings and doubts, and calling us to be believers and followers of Jesus. Thank you for all the prophetic fulfillments and the miracles Jesus did that provide us with evidence of his identity and mission. Thank you for your invitation to believe and keep on believing in Jesus. Thank you for your devotion toward us – for knowing us before we were born, for knowing our comings and goings, for loving us with an everlasting love, for caring for us day by day, for adopting us into your family. Father, Jesus, Spirit, we love you. In the name of the Risen Christ, Amen.

Missional/Spiritual Practice for the Month: Joining God in the Neighborhood

During the month of May, each of us is encouraged to be active participant in the Joining God in the Neighborhood workshop being offered on Sunday mornings after the worship gathering at Covenant Church. Joining God in the Neighborhood seeks to help us learn, through action and reflection, how to join in the mission of God in our neighborhoods. Together we'll learn and practice listening to God and our neighbor, discerning where the Spirit is at work, and developing small learning experiments that help us deepen our 'ministry of presence.'