

Paper Walls: Moving Beyond the Excuses that Hold You Back

Week one - "No More Hiding"
Genesis 3:8-10 and John 20:19-22

Bottom line: Surviving is an excuse for not thriving.

- 1. Are there opportunities you can identify that you may have missed, or almost missed, because of reasons that were actually excuses?
- 2. What areas of your life right now are you inclined to make excuses for doing or not doing something? Does it change how you navigate them if you identify them as excuses instead of reasons? How so?
- 3. Read John 20:19-22
  - a. What reason did the disciples have for staying behind locked doors after Jesus' crucifixion?
  - b. After Jesus appeared to them, did their reason still exist? How did it change?
  - c. How have their reasons and circumstances changed now that they have the Holy Spirit?
- 4. We have the Holy Spirit with us and in us, but we still make excuses. What are some ways you may be stuck in survival mode? How can you make a step past some of the paper walls this week to get back to thriving?