

Hope Revealed

Peace

TALK IT OVER

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions, and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step.

With your Bible, read John 20:19-26. The peace that Jesus offers the disciples is peace that he accomplished when he died for them on the cross. Because Jesus is the Life now and forever, the power of death, and the fear of death, associated as they are with sin and darkness, lie shattered and broken at His feet. Because He lives, we have hope and peace.

- What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
- What difficulties are you currently dealing with regarding your belief?
- Jesus' claim, "I am the Resurrection and the Life," was demonstrated with the actual resurrection. How does the resurrection give you peace.
- Jesus's resurrection from the dead fits him to do what no one else can do. Jesus can go where no one else can go. What area of your life has Jesus gone that no one else or nothing else could penetrate?

John 20:27-29 exercise. Thomas' resistance to faith is typical of the attitude held by many.

- Ask your group members to think back before their conversions and complete a statement like Thomas' that reflects their thinking then: "Unless _____, I will not believe."
- Share the statements with each other. Then have each tell about his or her conversion. Did the "unless" happen?
- Or, as with Thomas, did something else awaken faith?

This should be a positive experience for any in your group who may not be Christians yet, who can be encouraged to express their "unless" and then be able to hear the others' conversion stories.

BIG IDEA: The difficulties of belief may be great. But the absurdities of unbelief are even greater!

Use these prayer tips to talk it over with God and to expand your conversations both in person and online:

- In prayer, confess those areas of your life where you are afraid. Ask Him for His forgiveness and peace.
- Commit to God in prayer that you will strive to grow your trust in Him, especially during dark times.
- Thank God for all the times He has shown His love to you during difficult and dark circumstances. **Praise Him!**
- Pray and ask God to show you "who" instead of "what" when it comes to understanding things in your life.
- Pray for someone you know who's dealing with a tragedy or going hard times. Ask God to comfort them.

NEXT STEPS

Here are some specific things you can do this week to help you better understand why we endure difficult times and how you can build your trust in God.

The peace that Jesus offers the disciples is peace that he accomplished when he died for them on the cross. Go deeper into the Bible during this series. Go to our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/movementchurch) and read through the daily posts that explore the ideas from this message in other parts of the Bible. Leave a comment to share how the crucified and risen Christ brings peace into your life:

1. Peace Between Us And Him.
2. Peace Between Us And God.
3. Peace Between Us And Others
4. Peace Between Us And Our Own Souls.
5. Peace With The World.

Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep Talking It Over online.

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