

JESUS IS ALIVE

Easter 2020

4-12-20

John 20:1-2 - Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. ² So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "**They have taken** the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where **they have put him!**"

Luke 24:9, 11-12 - When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. . . .¹¹ But **they did not believe** the women, because their **words seemed** to them like **nonsense**.¹² Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

1. That first Easter evening Jesus walked into the room. The followers were hiding because they were mixed up, confused, and afraid.

John 20:19 - On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the **doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them** . . .

A. HE _____ to them.

John 20:19 - . . .and said, "Peace be with you!"

B. HE _____ them encouragement.

John 20:20 - After he said this, **he showed them his hands and side**. The disciples were **overjoyed** when they saw the Lord.

C. HE _____ them His love.

John 20:22 - And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

D. HE _____ them with His presence.

2 Timothy 1:7 - For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of **power**, of **love** and of **self-discipline**.

Power to overcome fear, confusion, and anxiety.

New series starts next week. Our Father: 66 Words You Thought You Knew.

John 20:21 - Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

E. HE _____ them a new reason to live.

F. HE _____ Thomas to believe.

John 20:24-28 - Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." ²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." ²⁸ Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

2. Truth about Easter in your life: Jesus meets you where you are in life, encourages you, reminds you of His love, fills you with His presence, gives you a purpose to live for, and helps you with your doubts.

Two Big Ideas to live with:

1. Because of Easter, your _____ can be conquered.

Ephesians 1:15-20 - For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, ²⁰ which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms. . .

2. Because of Easter, your _____ regrets are forgiven.

Colossians 2:14-15 - He **erased** the certificate of debt, with its obligations, that was against us and opposed to us, and has taken it out of the way **by nailing it to the cross**. ¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and disgraced them publicly; He triumphed over them by Him. HCSB

Three next step commitments to make:

1. I want to personally invite you to become part of Laurel Ridge Church. Sign up for Next Steps on the Connect Card.

2. Commit to watching next week and the following weeks in our brand new series called **Our Father: 66 Words You Thought You Knew**. We will discover how God's wisdom empowers us to overcome insecurities, confusion, and anxiety.
3. Invite Jesus into your life.

2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!