

From Fear to Freedom

John 20:19-21

- Top Four **FEARS** ('for fear of the Jews')

Fear of **FAILURE**

Fear of **LOSS**

Fear of **PAIN, HURT, PERSECUTION**

Fear of an **UNCERTAIN FUTURE**

KEY: These are the very circumstances God uses to draw people to Himself!

- Top four **FREEDOMS** ('Peace be with you' 2x)

Full **ACCEPTANCE**

Full **COMFORT** and **HEALING**

Full **PATH** and **PLAN** (Daniel 2:22)

- Greatest **HURDLE** to freedom – A **REFUSAL** to believe
Mark 16:10-13; Luke 24:8-12; John 14:27

Today many refuse to believe Easter is the KEY to peace!

- **TRANSITION** of belief – Luke 24:36-49

FROM disbelief due to **SKEPTICISM**

TO disbelief due to **AMAZEMENT**

Life Group Questions for April 4th, 2021

John 20:19-21, ¹⁹ So when it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were, **for fear of the Jews**, Jesus came and stood in their midst and *said to them, "**Peace be with you.**" ²⁰ And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "**Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you.**"

DISCOVER

1. What do you think were the reasons the disciples locked themselves in the house after the crucifixion?
2. Aside from the threat of the Jews, what emotions would the disciples have been feeling as they were locked in the house?
3. Can you compare this experience or fear with anyone else in the Bible?

EXPLORE

1. Why do you think Jesus repeated the phrase 'Peace be with you'?
2. Read John 14:27. What are some of the qualities of the 'peace' Jesus brings compared to the world's 'peace'?
3. Read Mark 16:10-13 and Luke 24:8-12. Why do you think the followers of Jesus had such a struggle actually believing in the resurrection?

EXPERIENCE

1. Have you ever experienced significant failure, loss or pain? How did you get through that experience?
2. Do you have a fear of the uncertain future? What areas of the unknown future concern you the most?
3. How has Jesus' resurrection and promise of acceptance and comfort helped you with your fears?
4. Read Luke 24:36-49. What brought the disciples out of fear and into peace?

ACTION

1. Identify any real fears you now experience and write a battle plan to fight against it until it turns into peace.
2. Share your fear and battle plan with a trusted friend and ask them to pray for you regularly for the next month.