

# “When Jesus Shows Up in the Room”



John 20:19–23

## Jesus Appears to His Disciples

<sup>19</sup> On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

## INTRODUCTION — WHEN FEAR LOCKS THE DOOR

After the resurrection, the disciples were not celebrating; they were **hiding**. Fear had locked them in a room, uncertainty had locked them in their minds, and grief had locked them in their hearts. Yet the good news of the resurrection is this: **locked doors cannot keep out a risen Savior.**

As we come out of seasons of fasting, seeking clarity, strength, and renewal, this text reminds us that Jesus doesn’t wait for us to get it together. **He steps into the room we’re in**, speaks peace, shows proof, and sends us forward with purpose.

## I. JESUS STEPS INTO OUR FEAR

*“Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’”*

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## Exegesis

- The disciples were behind locked doors “for fear of the Jews.”
- The Greek suggests ongoing fear — they were *continually* anxious.
- Jesus does not knock; He *appears* — demonstrating resurrection authority.

## Theology

- Christ’s resurrected body is glorified yet personal.
- His presence is not hindered by physical barriers or emotional ones.
- Peace is not a feeling; it is a **gift** from the risen Christ.

## Life Application

- Fear of failure, fear of the future, fear of people — none of it stops Jesus from entering our situation.
- When Jesus shows up, He doesn’t scold; He **speaks peace**.
- **Ask:** What locked doors in your life need His peace today?

## II. JESUS SHOWS HIS WOUNDS AS PROOF

*“He showed them His hands and His side.”*

## Exegesis

- Jesus offers physical evidence of His identity.
- The wounds are not erased; they are glorified.

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## Theology

- The resurrection does not erase suffering; it **redeems** it.
- The wounds of Christ are the eternal testimony of His love.

## Life Application

- Your wounds don't disqualify you; they become your witness.
- **Ask:** Can God use what hurt you to help someone else heal?

## III. JESUS SENDS THEM WITH PURPOSE

*“As the Father has sent Me, I am sending you.”*

## Exegesis

- The sending mirrors the Father's mission for Jesus — purposeful, sacrificial, Spirit-empowered.
- The disciples move from hiding to being commissioned.

## Theology

- The church is a **sent** community.
- Resurrection faith always leads to resurrection mission.

## Life Application

- You are not saved to sit; you are saved to be sent.
- **Ask:** After the resurrection, the question is not “Are you ready?” but “Are you willing?”

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## **IV. JESUS BREATHES THE SPIRIT OF EMPOWERMENT**

***“He breathed on them and said, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”***

### **Exegesis**

- The verb “breathed” echoes Genesis 2:7 — God breathing life into Adam.
- This is a symbolic, anticipatory act pointing toward Pentecost.

### **Theology**

- New creation begins with the resurrection.
- The Spirit is the power source for mission, courage, and transformation.

### **Life Application**

- You cannot do God’s work in human strength.
- The Spirit gives boldness where fear once lived.

## **V. Jesus Gives Authority to Forgive**

***“If you forgive anyone’s sins, they are forgiven...”***

### **Exegesis**

- Jesus entrusts His disciples with the ministry of reconciliation.
- This is not personal power but delegated authority to proclaim forgiveness through the gospel.

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## Theology

- The church becomes the earthly witness of heavenly grace.
- Forgiveness is the heartbeat of resurrection life.

## Life Application

- You are called to be a carrier of grace, not a **keeper of grudges**.
- **Resurrection people** release others the way Christ released them.

## CLOSING — FROM LOCKED ROOMS TO OPEN DOORS

As we close this study — and as we come through Resurrection Sunday — hear this truth:

**Jesus still steps into locked rooms.**

**Jesus still speaks peace.**

**Jesus still shows His wounds.**

**Jesus still sends His people.**

**Jesus still breathes His Spirit.**

And all of it points to the cross — the place where fear was defeated, sin was forgiven, and death was overturned. The resurrection is not just an event; it is an **entrance**. Christ enters our fear, our doubt, our hiding, and calls us into mission with His peace and His power.