



This five-day devotional walks with the disciples from behind locked doors into the wide-open reality of the risen Christ. Each day builds on John 20:19–31, where Jesus brings peace to fear, purpose to paralysis, and faith to doubt. As you reflect, invite Jesus to meet you in the places you’ve tried to secure, and to form you into a witness marked by His wounds and His Spirit.

Monday, April 13th

John 20:19

The disciples gather behind locked doors, trying to manage fear with control. Yet the risen Jesus comes to them anyway, showing that no barrier of anxiety, shame, or uncertainty can keep Him out. The very place that feels like a hiding spot becomes the place of encounter.

Consider what your “locked doors” look like today: habits of self-protection, silence, isolation, or striving to appear fine. Jesus does not wait for you to unlock everything before He draws near; He comes with steady presence, not condemnation. The first gift He offers to frightened hearts is Himself, and His nearness becomes the beginning of real safety.

Have a great week!

Tuesday, April 14th

John 20:21

When Jesus appears, His first words are "peace," and He repeats them as He sends the disciples. This is not peace as the absence of trouble, but peace as the presence of the risen Lord who has already faced sin, death, and suffering. The same Jesus who enters locked rooms also commissions people who feel unready.

Notice the order: peace comes before purpose. Jesus does not send you out to earn His approval or to prove your courage; He sends you because you belong to Him. If fear has made you idle or stuck, His call is gentle and clear: receive His peace, then take the next faithful step as one who is sent.

Wednesday, April 15th

John 20:22

Jesus breathes on the disciples and says, "Receive the Holy Spirit," echoing God's breath of life in creation. This moment reveals not only Jesus' authority to give the Spirit but also His desire to enliven what has gone numb. Where fear drains vitality and hope, the risen Christ gives new life from the inside out.

The Spirit is not a reward for spiritual strength; He is God's empowering presence for weak people learning to trust. If you feel empty, stuck, or spiritually tired, this is an invitation to stop relying on locked-door strategies and to depend on God's breath. The One who sends you also supplies what you need to follow Him.

Thursday, April 16th

John 20:27

Thomas' doubt is not hidden from Jesus, and Jesus does not shame him for struggling. He invites Thomas to come close and to see the wounds, making it clear that the crucified One is the risen One. The scars are not erased, because the cross was not a setback—it is the means of salvation and the lasting testimony of love.

This means your faith is not built on denial or pretending everything is fine. Jesus meets you with evidence of His mercy, reminding you that His reign is the reign of the Lamb who was slain. When you bring your questions to Him, you are not moving away from faith; you may be moving toward a deeper confession grounded in the cross.

Friday, April 17th

John 20:28-29

Thomas responds, “My Lord and my God,” a personal confession that recognizes Jesus' full divinity and personal claim. This is more than correct theology; it is surrender. Jesus is not merely admirable or helpful, but Lord, and not merely a teacher, but God. The journey from locked doors to confession ends in worship and allegiance.

Jesus then blesses those who believe without seeing, not because faith is blind, but because it trusts the trustworthy witness of the risen Christ. The same Jesus who brought peace, gave the Spirit, and displayed His wounds now invites you into steady, everyday trust. Your life becomes a testimony that the crucified and risen Lord still comes near, still saves, and still reigns.

Thank you for sharing your week with us.

Sunday's Coming!