

**Sermon Title: *“Continue My Mission”***

**Scripture: John 20:19-23**

Pastor Chris Fritz

Sunday, October 21, 2018

**INTRODUCTION**

**I. JESUS’ SECOND POST-RESURRECTION APPEARANCE: THE DISCIPLES (MINUS THOMAS)**

**A. The Disciples’ Feelings of Fear (John 20:19)**

Note: Knowledge alone is not enough; evidence alone is not enough; we need the power of God, the Spirit of God, at work in us if there is to be any lasting, meaningful change and growth.

***2 Timothy 1:7 - “…for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.”***

**B. Jesus’ Two Proclamations of Peace (John 20:19, 21)**

Note: Jesus comes to us in our fear and proclaims peace.

***Psalm 56:3; John 14:27; Colossians 1:19-20; Ephesians 6:15 -***

**C. Jesus’ Gracious Invitation to Intimacy (John 20:20)**

***John 20:20a - “When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side.”***

*Why does Jesus do this? And why does John record it?*

Note: Jesus shows them that He is the reason for their peace with God.

***1 John 1:1 -***

**D. The Disciples’ Right Response of Rejoicing (John 20:20)**

***Philippians 4:4 - “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.”***

***Revelation 1:17-18 -***

**E. Jesus’ Mandate to Continue His Mission (John 20:21-23)**

***Matthew 28:18-20 -***

MATTHEW emphasizes the authority and enduring presence of Christ with His followers.

***Mark 16:15-16 -***

MARK emphasizes the two possible responses, belief or unbelief, to the Gospel

***Luke 24:44-49 -***

LUKE (in Luke) emphasizes how the Gospel fulfills Old Testament prophecy and Luke emphasizes the necessity of the Holy Spirit’s power and enablement.

***Acts 1:18 -***

LUKE (in Acts) emphasizes, again, the Spirit’s work and God’s plan for the spread of the Gospel.

*What is John emphasizing here in verses 21-23?*

JOHN emphasizes our link, our unity, with Jesus in continuing His mission.

Note: Jesus has given us His peace, His power, His presence, His Spirit, and His mission!

*1) Who is sent?* Answer: Everyone who belongs to Christ.

*2) Where are we sent?* Answer: To bring light to the darkness.

*3) How are we sent?* Answer: With all necessary power.

*4) Why are we sent?* Answer: To proclaim forgiveness of sins in Jesus’ name.

***1 Timothy 2:5 -***

1st Post-Resurrection Appearance to Mary Magdalene: Relationships have Changed!

2nd Post-Resurrection Appearance to the Disciples: Continue My Mission!

**Take Home Questions for Further Study & Reflection & Application…**

1. Why is knowledge and evidence alone not enough to change and mature us? What do we need?
2. Why does Jesus proclaim peace twice to His disciples?
3. How is peace essential to the “good news” of the Gospel?
4. Why does Jesus show the disciples His hands, His side, His scars? What’s the point?
5. In what specific ways do we continue Jesus’ mission? What does it mean to be “salt” and “light”?
6. Who, within your sphere of influence, can you begin praying for, serving, and loving today?