

GO BEYOND

SERMON SERIES



Transforming the City One Life at a Time. Know God, Grow Together, Discover Purpose, Make a Difference

CONNECT

- Have you ever discovered a hidden talent or skill when trying something new? Like beginner's luck in a game, super human strength in a time of stress or understanding an impossible equation.

WORD

John 20:19- 22, Act 1: 4-8

"19 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!" 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

21 Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." 22 And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.' "

"4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. 5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

6 Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

7 He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

THOUGHT

What happened to Jesus after he was resurrected?

The resurrection of Jesus...In the New Testament, after the Romans crucified Jesus he was anointed and buried in a brand new tomb, purchased by Joseph of Arimathea. But three days later, God raised him from the dead and he appeared to many people over a span of forty days before he ascended into heaven. Sitting at the right hand of God, Jesus went beyond the grave. His death, burial, resurrection and ascension gave us the power to go overcome and go beyond any spiritual or physical impossibilities in our lives. (1 John 4:4, read John 14:12)

DISCUSSION

1. Why was it important that Jesus rose from the dead?

2. Why are the disciples fearful now? Why does Jesus say peace be with you?

3. Where could you use some peace in your life right now? (Relationships, work, personal life etc.)

4. Jesus explains that he is going to leave and give them power to witness. (Acts 1:8) Why would this be confusing? Do you think the disciples understood what this power would be?

5. Do you feel God has given you some abilities but you don't know what to do with them? How could you get help to activate and use your gifting?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

- This week think of the ways you can do more, Go Beyond, the norm. Spend time reading the story of the disciples after Jesus' ascension. They didn't know what to expect when Jesus told them He would give them power to be a witness, today we know what this means. How can you enact power this week into your witnessing?

PRAYER

- Pray asking God to give the power to be His witness. Pray that He would give you the peace to Go Beyond your present circumstances, accomplishing more than you have imagined.
- Pray with a friend, a family member, a co-worker who is need of the peace and power of God. Pray that it will give them the strength to Go Beyond the limitations in their life.