

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of April 30, 2017

This Week's Focus: All those who place their faith in Jesus' atoning work on the cross are the people of God who enjoy eternal peace with God while serving on mission with God to seek and to save the lost.

This Week's Text: John 20:19-23

"For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him." **Colossians 1:19-22**

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- According to this week's text, where were the disciples on Easter Sunday evening? Why were they afraid of the Jews? Discuss the difference between healthy and unhealthy fear. What fears do you struggle with that stifles your faith in God and prevents you from moving toward God, resting in God, or living on God's mission to seek and save the lost?
- Rather than rebuking them, how did Jesus greet his fearful disciples? Who alone has the power to conquer our fears? Reference Isaiah 41:10 and John 14:16-18?
- What does it mean to have peace *with* God? How has God provided everything we need to experience peace with him? (Romans 5:1, Colossians 1:19-22)?
- How did the disciples respond after hearing Jesus' declaration of peace and seeing his scars? Is your life marked by joy in Jesus' triumph over sin, Satan, and death?
- After seeing the scars in Jesus' hands and feet, Jesus offers the disciples the peace necessary sustain them in his purpose. What is the mission of God that Jesus invites the disciples (and us) into? How does our peace *with* God and the indwelling peace of God the Holy Spirit prepare us for a life of mission?

- What is preventing you from living as a missionary ("sent one") in your community? Discuss some ways you can live with gospel intentionality each day.
- What does it mean that Jesus breathed on the disciples and gave them the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:44-49). What is the Holy Spirit's role in the "Missio Dei" (mission of God)?
- What is the gospel and how does Jesus reference the gospel in verse 23?