



## SDG Discussion Guide

### "On Mission With Christ"

John 20:19-23

June 18, 2017

For starters:

What are some things that come to mind when you imagine "locked doors"? How about "open doors"? Why do you think?

Interaction with the text (The following questions are meant to provide points of interaction with the respective sermon text. Feel free to forward the questions to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday; or, group members may find these questions in print on that Sunday. Further, feel free to facilitate your own discussion regarding the respective text.)

1. Why are the disciples fearful now?
2. What specific gifts and promises does Jesus give them?
3. Of all the things Jesus must have said, why does John record "peace be with you" three times (vv. 19, 21, 26)? How does this relate to the disciples' fears? To their being silent?

*For some of the following questions, read beyond the passage to the end of the chapter (vv 24-31).*

4. How does Thomas' personality compare to Mary's (20:13)? To the other disciples' (vv 9, 19)?
5. How does Thomas' attitude -- both before and after Jesus appears to him -- add credibility to the resurrection?

How do you remember your early confession of Christ's lordship?

6. What questions about God have you grappled with? What have you found helpful in dealing with difficult questions?
7. John tells us why he has written his Gospel in verses 30-31. Of all the "miraculous signs" John has included, which have been most convincing to you? Why?
8. Where could you use Jesus' peace right now: In some inner worry? In some relationship? In your work?

Pray with and for one another. Pray the Holy Spirit will help you to repent of anything keeping you from a right relationship with God. Pause. Ask him to fill you anew with his love and power, and to convict your heart once more of his great love for you and for others. Pray that you would not be able to hold back sharing with someone else in your life the joy and peace you have because of Christ. Launch forth this week expectant of how God will respond to your prayers.

\*These questions were adapted from *The NIV Quiet Time Bible* (InterVarsity, 1996) and *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).