

GO TELL

LIFE GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Sermon Date: Sunday, May 17, 2026

Sermon Passage(s): John 20:1-9, 11-18, 19-22, 24-29

Pastor Eric Moreno

This Week's Main Takeaway

Jesus calls us to share, not just associate.

This Week's Memory Verse

John 20:20-22 (NIV), "(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."

Five Inductive Questions

1. GOD :: What does this passage imply about God?

God is cherished by His disciples. The first day of the week was Sunday. Mary Magdalene (and several other women) decided to attend to some matters that had been left undone because of the beginning of the Sabbath (CSB Study Bible Notes). In this passage, we also see that community in Christ is important. The "other disciple" is probably a reference to John, the author of this gospel and the disciple described as "the one whom Jesus loved." (vs. 1-9)

God knows your name and commands us to tell others about Him. Before verse 16, Jesus had already spoken to Mary. It was when she heard her own name from his lips that she knew who it was (CSB Study Bible Notes). Jesus wants us to live in truth, *not* ASSUMPTION. (vs. 11-18)

God will find us, reveal Himself to us, even as we are hiding. Jesus equips us with all that we need and more. In verses 19 and 21, "peace" was Jesus's gift to His followers by virtue of his sacrificial death on the cross (CSB Study Bible Notes). (vs. 19-22)

Jesus is graceful with Thomas, who was specific about needing proof. Jesus gave it to Him. (vs. 24-29)

2. MAN :: What does this passage imply about man?

Humanity tends to assume the worst and compete with one another. (vs. 1-9)

Humanity focuses on worldly reasoning over Biblical reasoning. We are sinful, and Jesus takes no part in that. In verse 15, Jesus is mistaken for a *gardener*. Mary mistaking Jesus for the gardener suggests that Jesus was indistinguishable from an ordinary person (CSB Study Bible). (vs. 11-18)

Humanity will hide in fear and needs comfort when threatened. In verse 20, we see that Jesus's scars proved He was the very one who was crucified and that He prophesied His resurrection (CSB Study Bible Notes). (vs. 19-22)

Humanity will run from truth. In verse 25, apparently Thomas thought the disciples had seen a ghost. Yet, John was careful to affirm that Jesus's resurrection body was not that of a phantom or spirit apparition but a genuine (although glorified) human body (CSB Study Bible Notes). (vs. 24-29)

3. PROMISE :: Is there a *promise* to claim in this passage?

This passage helps us see that Jesus, plus nothing, is everything! This truth is not only profound but also powerful, as He continues to reveal Himself to us. Through the power of His resurrection, we receive life, peace that surpasses all understanding, and the ability to live out the gospel of Jesus Christ.

4. COMMAND :: Is there a *command* to obey in this passage?

In verse 21-22, we see the Gospel of John's version of the Great Commission, which culminates in the presentation of Jesus as the one sent from the Father. Now the sent one (Jesus) had turned Sender, commissioning His followers to serve as His messengers and representatives (17:18). All three persons of the Godhead are involved in this commissioning. As Jesus was sent by God the Father, so He, the Son, was sending out His disciples (20:21), equipping them with the Holy Spirit (v. 22). John thus demonstrated that each member of the Godhead is involved in the redemption plan and the mission of spreading the gospel to the world. The Holy Spirit was given dramatically and permanently a short time later (Acts 2). (CSB Study Bible Notes)

Therefore, through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can do the following:

- Do not live in fear.
- Do not live in hiding.
- Do not keep him to ourselves.
- Live to share!

5. REPENT :: Reflecting on this portion of God's Word, what can I *repent* of this week?

Jesus calls us to share, not just associate.

Consider this week: When were fear and hiding driving my responses? Did I lose sight of Jesus's promises? Did I "keep" Jesus to myself and not share Him with others?

Sources:

CSB Study Bible Notes (B&H Publishing)