



Sunday, August 16, 2020
Pastor Don Denyes

Intro to John 20:19-29

Happy (belated) Easter! Of course, many of you were not able to gather with us this first week back in church, but it is always a good time to celebrate Christ's resurrection! In fact, that is why the early Christians decided to gather on the first day of the week, because that was the day that Christ rose from the dead. This was (and continues to be) the most profound event in the history of mankind.

While many things distract us day by day, it is good that we re-orient ourselves to the reality of Christ's resurrection. Because He has risen from the grave, we have certainty about the promise of our own future resurrection. But even beyond that, we have great peace, purpose, and power in the present. Jesus's resurrection precipitated the coming of the Holy Spirit whereby we now have the power to live righteous lives that are not possible in the flesh. Because Jesus rose again, we know our purpose of glorifying God and seeking to make Him known in every sphere. This, of course, includes evangelism, but it encompasses every aspect of our lives—family, vocation, recreation, trials and suffering, church life. Everything we do is now radically meaningful because of Christ's resurrection. We must remember that always.

Context

John's Gospel comes to a climax in this passage. The stated purpose (immediately following our passage) is that those who read it might believe that Jesus is the Christ and that by believing we may have life in His name. The Gospel is filled with stories (signs) that point to Jesus's identity as the Christ, with mixed responses from the people He interacted with. However, the ultimate confession is made by "Doubting Thomas" when he declares that Jesus is his Lord and his God. May we find ourselves not only making the same declaration but living it out as well.

Read and Reflect *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read John 20:19-29

“Resurrection Gifts”

Peace (v. 19)

- Contentment

- Legacy

Purpose (v. 21)

- Mission

- Forgiveness

Power (v. 22)

- Breath – Holy Spirit

- Continual Presence

