

(19) On the evening of that day, the first day of the week --- the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews --- Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

(21) Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you." And when He had said this, He 'breathed' on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

(24) Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the mark of the nails, and place my hand into His side, I will never believe."

(26) Eight days later, His disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and My God!"

(29) Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

(30) Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

Think on these things:

- 1) Would it be fair to say that Jesus' first appearance to His disciples resembled more of a ghostly apparition? Why would we think this? How did Jesus dispel the idea that He was a "ghost"?

- 2) What was Jesus' message to them on this first night of His resurrection? Please note that this is where the disciples "changed" from disciples. Can you explain the difference (v.21)?

Apostles - _____

Disciples? _____

- 3) Verse 22 is an interesting verse. Teachings in John on the Holy Spirit can also be found in 7:39 and 14:16-17, 26. Both of these contribute to our understanding of the Father's gifting "after" Jesus' glorification. Pentecost, Acts 2:1-4, ('pente' meaning 50 [days] after Passover) is seen as the fulfillment. If Jesus stayed on earth for 40 days after His resurrection (Acts 1:3-5), how much longer did His believers have to wait in Jerusalem to be imbued with power from the Holy Spirit?

50 days -- **_____ days** = **_____ days**
Pentecost follows Passover Jesus stayed on earth. Disciples prayerfully waited

- 4) Which disciple could we refer to as “from Missouri”, the ‘Show Me’ state”? How did Jesus respond to his doubts? What was Jesus’ charge to him --- and to us (v.27)?!

Disciple? _____

Jesus’ response? _____

Jesus’ charge? _____

- 5) Do you see yourself in verse 29? Why does Jesus say ‘we’ are blessed today?

- 6) When you read v.30, what do you understand about the ‘signs’ (miracles) of Jesus recorded in the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke & John)? What does John say about the miracles he chose to include in his book?

All Gospel miracles (v.30)? _____

John’s recorded miracles (v.31)? _____

- 7) Are you sure that you have eternal life in Jesus? How can you be sure?

People and situations I want to pray for this week: