A "Super Sunday Night Meeting" John 20:19-22

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We Attend Sunday Night Service for Different Reasons

- Because the bible says "be here!"
- Because of the force of a good habit
- Because it is convenient and quick (you get the same thing with less time, less hassle, and fewer folks)

This Sunday Evening Meeting Was Similar

- Many came together not expecting anything new or different
- They came with fears and desires but no expectations
- They didn't know what was about to happen
- But this Sunday night meeting would change their lives and the world as they saw it forever

The Doors Were Locked, verse 19

They were more concerned about what was happening on the outside than what was about to happen on the inside.

We sometimes act the same!

Our Worship Attitudes May Be Mundane

- Worship is as exciting as standing in a long line at a grocery store
- We are worshiping waiting for the ending
- We tolerate the singing, and praying and preaching until it's over. Then we can get on with the real business of life!

But Everything Changed When Jesus Showed Up!

When Jesus Shows Up It Makes a Difference

- It made a difference in the wedding in Cana of Galilee, John chapter 2
- It made a difference at the tomb of Lazarus, John chapter 11
- It should make a difference in our spiritual interest and activity

"Peace be with you", verse 19

- Jesus knew their fears
- They were meeting together secretly and privately, guarding the door
- He knew they were in need of peace

Jesus Also Knows Our Fears, Anxieties and Struggles

- "I'm not a healthy woman". Jesus knows that.
- "I'm guilty of sin in my life". Jesus knows that.
- "My finances are a mess". Jesus knows that.
- "My marriage is crumbling". Jesus knows that.
- "My job situation is shaky". Jesus knows that.
- "I've got a medical evaluation". Jesus knows that.
- "My grown children have left the Lord." Jesus knows that.

We All Are in Need of Peace!

We Have to Take Our Eyes Off of the Storm and Fix Them On Jesus!

- Peter had to do it when he was walking on the water. Matthew 14:30, "But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me."
- We have to fix our eyes and commitment on Jesus. Hebrews 12:1-2

God's Faithful Children Have Had to Deal With Storms

- Abraham and Sarah experienced the storm of anxiety and infidelity (Hagar, Sarah's handmaid)
- Rahab the harlot experienced the storm of losing her security when she kept two Israeli spies hidden in her house when the enemy came to her door looking for them
- Joseph experienced the storm of <u>waiting on God</u> to deliver (The fear of waiting for nothing)

Then Jesus Christ Shows His Scars

- He shows the wounds in His side and His hands
- He is teaching them that life can go on beyond the wounds, and triumph can spring from tragedy

Because of Christ, Good Can Come From Hurt

The greatest loss to the world was the brutal execution of the Son of God.

But the greatest gift to the world is the opportunity we have because of His death!

John 12: 24-26 (NLT)

"I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted into the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels- a plentiful harvest of many new lives."

"Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity."

Using Your Rules To Look Out For Yourself Will Cause You to Be Lost

Dying to Yourself, For Christ's Sake Will Secure Your Life for Eternity and Those That Follow You!

The Disciples Were "filled with Joy when they saw the Lord," verse 20, (NLT)

- This is the true character of what Sunday worship should be (morning or evening)
- Worship service should have some form of reverence and thankfulness

However When Dignity and Rigor Mortis are the Same, Something is Wrong!

Joy is a matter of heart and mind

It comes from looking at Jesus

He renews our joy by giving us a reason to live

Lessons Can Be Learned Anytime You Worship! (Even on Sunday Night)

The Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins Acts 17:30

Confess Christ Acts 8:37

Be Baptized Acts 8:38