



# HIGHLANDS FELLOWSHIP

Summer at Highlands • As We Go • John 20:20-22 • 06/02/2019

## Main Point

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Our God is a sending God!

## Opening Doors

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As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

**Who are the different kinds of people who have some degree of authority over you in a given day (i.e., police officers, crossing guards, librarians, and employers). Where do these people receive their authority?**

**Have you ever been sent as a representative of another person? What does it mean for someone to have Power of Attorney for someone else?**

Lawyers represent people in court. Students represent their schools when they play on sports teams. Police officers represent the authority of the state. In such situations, we do not simply represent ourselves, but the power and authority and good name of others.

When Jesus rose from the dead, He commissioned His disciples to carry out the work of preaching the gospel to every nation. Jesus did not commission us to do this work without giving us the power to do it. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to fill the church with His love, power, and grace to carry out the work that He began.

## Digging In

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Discuss the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.

ASK A VOLUNTEER TO READ JOHN 20:20-22.

**What does it mean to have peace with God?**

**How does this peace tie into the questions we explored in this week's message: Am I for, with, and of my community?**

**What did the Father send Jesus to do?**

**How can we do the things that the Father sent Jesus to do?**

The most wonderful news on Earth is that sinful people can have peace with God. But how can sinful people have peace with God after we have rebelled against Him? The Apostle Paul wrote, "Since we have been declared righteous by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1). Peace with God comes through trusting in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. When we believe that Jesus died for our sins, rose from the dead, and trust in Him as our Lord, God is no longer hostile towards us. He declares us righteous and at peace.

This good news is what Jesus has sent us to proclaim. We are to take this message of peace into a world full of people in rebellion against God. We declare an amnesty for those who will love and trust in His Son Jesus.

**What evidence do you find in these verses that God is for you and with you?**

**Why do you think Jesus called attention to the Holy Spirit right after He told the disciples He was sending them into the world?**

**Why is the gift of the Holy Spirit important as we seek to be for, with, and of our community?**

When Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to the church, He did it because we would not be able to accomplish the work of evangelizing the world without Him. Not only must the Holy Spirit convict others as we present the gospel, He must also be active in sanctifying us and helping us share the gospel. The church will complete the task that Jesus gave to us because the Holy Spirit is all-powerful. The gospel will be proclaimed in all the Earth, and the Holy Spirit will gather believers from every corner of the Earth.

## **Taking It Home**

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Help each other identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.

**As a group, how are we doing at being Christ's ambassadors in our community?**

**Do you think our community would say that we are for them? Why or why not? If yes, would they also say that we are with and/or "of" them? Explain.**

**How can you show that you are for your community this week? How can you show that you are with your community? How can you show that you are "of" your community?**