

CG Guide
"Sent by God"
John 20:21-23

Reminders:

- Men's Breakfast September 15th, details on The City.
- Please be in prayer for the ENL interest meetings.

Remember:

Did you meet anyone new anytime this past week? How did it go?

What stood out to you from Sunday's time of gathered worship? How did the Holy Spirit speak to you on Sunday (and since then)?

Deepen:

Read John 20:21-23

How have you experienced the peace of God?

Why is knowing the peace of God foundational to the mission?

In verse 21, Jesus says he is sending us into the world as he was sent into the world. How was He sent into the world? *With a mission. To handle the problem of sin in this world.*

What did He experience while He was in the world?

- He was doubted. (John 20:24-25 ESV)
- He was talked about. (John 7:11-12 ESV)
- He was rejected. (John 1:10-11 ESV)
- He was betrayed. (by his followers/friends) (John 13:26-27 ESV)(John 18:2-3 ESV) (John 18:25-27 ESV)
- He grieved. (John 11:33-35 ESV)
- He was criticized (to his face and behind his back). (John 10:19-21 ESV)
- He was misunderstood. (by the Pharisees, by seekers, and by his disciples) (John 2:19-21 ESV) (John 3:9-10 ESV) (John 11:11-15 ESV)
- He was beaten. (John 19:1-3 ESV)
- He was ultimately murdered. (John 19:16-18 ESV)

What should we expect as we are sent into the world? *Nothing less than what Christ experienced. [20] Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. [21] But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me. (John 15:20-21 ESV)*

What have you experienced as you have been sent into the world by Christ on the mission of Christ?

Jesus sends us in the power of the Holy Spirit. Why is this necessary?

When are you most tempted to walk in your own strength and not the Holy Spirit?

What is the message we have been given to proclaim and participate in as Christians? *In verse 23...it is the forgiveness of sins that is available through the risen Christ. He uses us to participate to tell this grand story as we are invited to participate in his grand mission. Such grace.*

David said Sunday morning that sin is the issue that has to be dealt with. What is the general view of sin in our culture? *Usually somewhere between "I am not really that bad" and "there is no way I can be forgiven for what I have done."*

Why is sin the massive issue (offense to God) that has to be dealt with? *We have sinned against a holy, just righteous God. He must, in his justice, punish sin. As sinners, we are hopeless outside of the Savior Jesus.*

Why is Jesus the only one who can forgive sins? *He lived perfectly and died in our place for our sins taking on the due, just wrath of God as He became sin on the cross that we might be righteous. We had no way out apart from his intervention.*

Spend a little time celebrating this good news...this gospel.

Transform

Have you experienced the saving peace of God? How are you daily abiding in it?

How do you need to repent of trying to walk in your own strength and not the power of the Holy Spirit?

Brainstorm some ways people can engage the issue of sin (and the need for the Savior Jesus) in the lives of those around them. How did God save some of you? *People know there is something wrong with the world we live in...phrases like "nobody's perfect" and "we are only human are evidence of this." Walking in the Spirit, we can help them see their sin in particular and their need for a Savior...Jesus.*

We all spend our lives on something. What are you spending your life on? If it's not the mission of Christ (living and proclaiming the forgiveness of sins found only in Christ), are there areas of fresh conviction and repentance that need to happen in your life?

Close your time in prayer.