

DAILY READINGS

Sunday	John 20:19-29
Monday	Mark 1:1-11; Psalm 66:13-20; Proverbs 11:22-24
Tuesday	Mark 1:12-28; Psalm 67; Proverbs 11:25-27
Wednesday	Mark 1:29-46; Psalm 68:1-7; Proverbs 11:28-31
Thursday	Mark 2:1-17; Psalm 68:8-13; Proverbs 12:1-3
Friday	Mark 2:18-28; Psalm 68:14-22; Proverbs 12:4-6
Saturday	Mark 3:1-21; Psalm 68:23-35; Proverbs 12:7-9

DEVOTIONAL: READ JOHN 20:19-29

On the evening of Jesus' resurrection day, the disciples were hiding in a locked room, afraid of the Jews. As they were hiding in fear, Jesus surprised them by appearing in the room. This is the first time they had seen the risen Jesus. Having likely experienced every emotion over the past couple of days, they continued to have many reactions as they transitioned from fear and shock to gladness and rejoicing.

Thomas was not present at that time with the other disciples. When he heard of the resurrection, he responded in doubt; he needed proof. When Thomas rejoined the disciples eight days later and Jesus revealed Himself to them again, Thomas responded in worship, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28).

How would Jesus have us respond to His resurrection? How should we respond when He reveals Himself in other ways today? Through this story, we see many responses from the disciples. From the words of Jesus, we see three desired responses: that we experience peace; (He said "peace be with you" three times—John 20:19, 21, 26); that we believe (John 20:29); and that we are sent out on mission as He was sent (John 20:21). Which response most resonates with you today? Have you been missing the peace that comes from knowing that the resurrection makes eternal life a reality? Is today the day when you finally believe that His death and resurrection is for you personally? Are you living as one sent out to share the good news with a world that needs hope?

REFLECTION

Do you actually believe that Jesus rose from the dead? What part of the resurrection story do you struggle believing the most? Who can you process that with this week?

How does your life reflect your belief in Jesus' resurrection?

Where are the places and who are the people God is sending you to throughout your week?

DISCUSSION

In your opinion, how does someone become a Christian?

PRAYER

Jesus, in light of all that You are, I bring the entirety of my life before You. You are well acquainted with my fears, doubts, insecurities, distractions, and struggles. You know my innermost thoughts and all that motivates my every action—from pure to deplorable. Fully aware of my tendency toward rebellion and sin, You made a way for me to have true, lasting peace with God. You offered Your life as the ultimate expression of Your Father's love, so that I could be set free from the power of sin over my life. You offer abundant living for today and an eternity of joy in Your presence for all who believe.

Help me with my unbelief. Help me cling to Your Spirit when I am weak. Help me fix my eyes on You and Your life-giving Word, studying Your every move. Teach me how to live, love, lead, serve, and sacrifice the way You modeled. Through the strength that Your Spirit gives, help me walk in this day believing You are enough. May Your love be my life's motivation and Your message of grace be my mission. Amen.