



**Series:** Here, There & Everywhere (Part 1)

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## **INTRODUCTION**

We live in times where it is easy to outsource everything- from having our food cooked and delivered to us with a few clicks on our phones to AI-generated emails and presentations. There are many tools available to use at our convenience to free up both our time and resources. As appealing as it is to have our lives organised and made efficient, we run the danger of outsourcing our faith. Do we claim that serving God is only for the “mature Christians,” and that this would excuse us from heeding God’s calling on our lives and fulfilling our purpose?

## **DISCUSSION**

1. Read John 20:19-22.

Jesus had resurrected, and a new era had begun for all believers. Especially for the disciples who had witnessed countless miracles firsthand, Jesus’s resurrection would have confirmed that He was truly the Son of God. Yet in vs.19, we read that the disciples were hiding together in fear. They feared persecution and sought comfort in this support group.

- a) What is your reaction when we feel persecuted or wronged? Do you find comfort in like-minded people?
- b) What happens when we try to live out our faith behind closed doors?

2. When we are too busy feeling sorry or scared, we miss out on our purpose. In v21, Jesus said, “Peace be with you”. This declaration of *Shalom* does not mean the absence of anxiety but rather that every high thing that tries to exalt itself above God will be brought down, under the authority of Jesus. It describes our reconciliation with God and a restoration of Godly order to the world. This blessing of *Shalom* comes with our calling - that as the Father has sent Jesus, even so He is sending us.

- a) What does it mean for you to have the peace of God in your life? Think about a difficult season or time in your life when you experienced this “Shalom,” and share it with the group.
- b) In John 20, Jesus gives peace and then sends His disciples. What do you think is the connection between receiving Jesus’ peace and carrying His peace to others?
- c) Jesus was sent by the Father to reveal God’s love and bring reconciliation. Where in your life might Jesus be sending you to reflect that same peace, love, or reconciliation?
- d) What does it look like to move from being fearful people to bold witnesses?

3. In v22, Jesus breathed on his disciples and told them to receive the Holy Spirit. This is a promise to us that we will have the Holy Spirit right where He is sending us.

- a) It is no coincidence that Jesus gave them the Holy Spirit before the disciples began their mission. Share with the group how the Holy Spirit has influenced or enabled you in your life.

## **WHAT WILL YOU DO**

Our calling and anointing cannot be outsourced. Every believer has a God-given role and responsibility to live out their faith and make an impact.

The phrase “Here, There and Everywhere” reminds us that we are called to be present, intentionally engaging with others with genuine love, even if it is inconvenient.

- Here - in our immediate environment: our home, workplace, church and community.
- There - in places beyond our daily reach: other communities, other countries
- Everywhere - through every opportunity and platform available

Here are some tools to help us:

**D** — Daily Abiding: Spend time with God daily through Bible reading, prayer, and worship.

**E** — Each Week Presence: Each week, intentionally be present with someone over coffee, a meal, or a conversation. Ask: “Holy Spirit, who should I reach out to?”

**E** — Extend Digitally: Consider how you can contribute meaningfully in digital spaces.

**P** — Pay Attention: Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit. God may prompt you to speak to someone or take an opportunity to serve.

**E** — Equip Yourself: Read, attend classes, learn in order to be equipped to serve well.

**R** — Respond: Say yes to God. Be available when He calls.

**MEMORY VERSE**

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." - John 20:21