

**August 30, 2020**  
La Jolla Christian Fellowship  
**Jesus Unmasked**  
**Episode 4: The Virality Of Experience**  
Pastor Harry Wilson

**John 20:19-22 (NLT)**

*19 On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." 20 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.*

**Vs. 19-20 More than knowledge**

- The catalyst for the virality of the Gospel was not just new and powerful teaching, but tangible experience with the person of Jesus Christ.
- Faith doesn't happen to us, but through us in relational stride with God. How do you experience God in your life?

*"If you want to build a ship, don't drum up people to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea."  
-Antoine de Saint-Exupery*

- Genuine longing is crafted in experience.
- Habit formation is fundamental for consistently experiencing God in your life.
- The aim is to build spiritual habits that mature into disciplines.

**Vs. 21-22 Peace be with you**

- True peace is not the absence of conflict but the presence of Christ.
- Shalom, when used as a verb, means "to make complete" or "restore".
- The receiving of the Holy Spirit includes a commission to go; to be a people sent by God.
- The spreading of the Gospel is dependent on real people having personal experiences with the resurrected Jesus, receiving the Holy Spirit, and sharing those experiences with others.

## **John 5:39-40**

*“You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me! 40 Yet you refuse to come to me to receive this life.”*

### **Respond**

1. What has your experience been like following Jesus?
2. When do you most experience the presence of God?
3. Take stock of the habits you currently have. What ways do you consistently encounter God in your day or week?
4. How could you build on those habits?
5. What new spiritual habit can you attainably add to your everyday?