

Then Jesus  
Showed Up!  
John 20:19-28

# Observations

- There are problematic situations that have occurred in my life, as a Christian, in which I actually looked for God to be with me in times of my own difficulties
- I have found that my experiences of this nature are not uncommon to the child of God in general
- The Bible tells us over and over again that God's presence is **ALWAYS** with His children, no matter what the difficulty might be: *"For He Himself has said I will never leave thee nor forsake thee, so we may boldly say..." Hebrews 13:5-6*
- Sometimes the issues we face can be overwhelming because we can't see God's path clearly
- Some issues are new experiences that you've never been faced with (physical illnesses, financial hardships, marital storms, job mistreatment) 2 Corinthians 4:8-9



# This Episode With the Disciples Was Full of Doom and Gloom

- Jesus had died and the disciples “gathered together,” with a mood of discouragement, hopelessness, and despair
- They had believed that Jesus was going to be their deliverer, and liberate the Israelite nation from Roman rule
- But now Jesus is gone, having been crucified before their very eyes (the last time they saw Him, He had nails in His hands, a spear was thrust into His side, and He was dying on a cross between two known thieves)
- Every natural visible evidence made them conclude: This movement that we had believed in so much ... is over!
- *They're left with mixed feelings: “He tried,” “He was a good man,” “He meant well”.... “But He's done!,” “It's over!”*

# But What We've Learned In Life Is: It's Not Over Until God Says It's Over!

- The doctor may say it's over (nothing else we can do)
- The lawyer may say it's over (all efforts have been exhausted)
- The wife/husband may say it's over (already too much damage has been done)
- The educator has already had that dreaded parent/teacher conference and "friction" develops with no solution in sight
- When other people hear about your problems they say: *"Well, that's an impossible situation for you to overcome!"*
- But the word, "impossible," is not a given in God's vocabulary  
Hebrews 6:18, *"... it is impossible for God to lie"*

Jesus said once, *"What is impossible with man is possible with God."* Luke 18:27

# Your Story in Life Can Change When Jesus Shows Up!

- Mark 5 tells the story of a woman with “Hemophilia” for 12 years, who was broke financially and dying because of this disease. What could man do for her “impossible situation?” **NOTHING!**

## *Then Jesus Shows Up In Her Life!*

- She’s pressing her way in a crowd to Jesus and just “brushes His clothes,” and then “coagulates” after 12 years
- Jesus later told her that “her faith” had healed her, verse 34
- Believing in Jesus’ ability was a powerful tool that He used to heal her (her actions had accompanied her belief) Her belief was more than “acknowledging God’s existence,” James 2:19
- Having faith that our God will “SHOW UP” in our lives is a powerful tool for blessings we hope to receive, Isaiah 40:31

# What About the Hebrew Boys Thrown in the Fiery Furnace, Daniel 3

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- What could man have done for them? They had received a “death sentence,” and their “fiery execution” was in process
- Man could do NOTHING for their consequences, but God could!
- The King went to view their execution and suddenly, he had to question the number of people he was executing
- “Weren’t there three men tied up?” “But I see four, and the fourth is like the Son of God ...” Daniel 3:24
- Sometimes God doesn’t remove the fire but makes you fireproof!

He might not lighten your burden, but rather strengthen your back instead!



## Now Back to the Disciples in John Chapter 20

- Their leader is dead and they are gathered behind locked doors. Their mourning and their joy had turned into despair.
- They were trapped by their fear (why else lock the doors?)
- The spirit of Fear had them “locked down” at this point

### **Fear Has Many Facets!**

- Many Believers live their lives behind doors locked by fear
- Fear of sickness and disease, Fear of the Covid 19 Pandemic
- Fear of violence in neighborhoods, schools, churches, hospitals
- Fear of the future, fear of failure, fear of rejection by friends

# But Here is the Good News for the Child of God!

***“For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have receive the spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.” Romans 8:15***

- ***“Abba”*** - an endearing personal term, less formal than ***“father”*** (*It means Papa*) *Jesus uses it to describe His relationship with His Father in Mark 14:36, and we can too!*
- There the disciples were, all huddled together, feeling hopeless, **AND THEN CAME JESUS RIGHT THROUGH THE WALL!** You don't need a key when you're the door, truth, life! John 10:9, John 14:6
- ***“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear; because fear hath torments (afraid you'll be punished). He that feareth is not made perfect in love (you don't thoroughly know God's love).” 1 John 4:18***



# Jesus Has a History of Showing Up For His People!

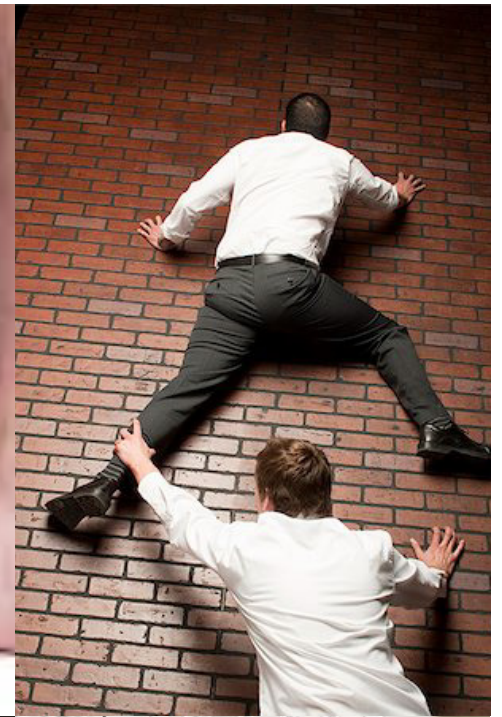
- Remember when the disciples were toiling and rowing in a dangerous sea against dangerous winds in Matthew 14
- The Bible says that in the fourth watch (around dawn), Jesus came to them walking on water. When you can't sleep, He's not asleep either!
- When does Jesus come? When all hope is gone; When you've said/done all you can say or do, when you've seen almost all of the doctors, when you've gone to lawyer after lawyer, bank after bank, you've filled out all of the job applications you know about with no response
- Is there anybody here that can testify, that having gone through their storm, Jesus showed up in it?

# Where Will Jesus Come to His Disciples?

- ***“Into the midst” verse 19 or right in the middle of their and your situation***
- **We’ve got approximately 8 lawyers and one Judge in this church family, and I’m sure that they have seen Jesus in the midst of their courtrooms and offices**
- **We have a large percentage of health care workers in this church family, and I’m sure that they have seen Jesus appear in hospitals and clinics of health care where they were ministering to someone**
- **I have done many marital counseling sessions, and have seen Jesus come “into the midst,” and cause a “breakthrough!”**  
**“Do you want to be right or reconciled!”, Jentezen Franklin,**  
***Love Like You’ve Never Been Hurt***
- **Once, when God’s man at his job, voiced concerns about workplace hazards, they made him a “A Safety Inspector!” at the company (that’s Jesus in the midst of your situation)**

**“But Too Much  
Has Happened  
to Me That Was  
Self Induced!”**

- **I Shot Myself In The Foot!**
- **I Burned All Of The Bridges That Got Me Across!**
- **I Erected The Walls That I Can't Climb!**
- **I Shut The Doors That Are Closed Behind Me!**



# A Great Thing About Our Father:

## Our Abba (Papa) Forgives!

*“Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy on them, and to our God, for He will freely pardon.” Isaiah 55:7*

- God heals bodies with “self induced” abnormalities
- God breaks down walls that we’ve erected
- God rebuilds bridges that we’ve burned
- God opens doors that we’ve closed

So, The Question Remains:  
***When Jesus Shows Up  
In your Circumstances,  
Will You Let Him Take  
Over, and Follow Him?***

***Matthew 16:24***

# The Plan of Salvation

**Hear the Gospel**

**Acts 15:7**

**Believe the Gospel**

**Acts 15:7**

**Repent of Sins**

**Acts 17:30**

**Confess Christ**

**Acts 8:37**

**Be Baptized**

**Acts 8:38**

