



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

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John 20:19-25 Study Hints for Discussion

[**Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further**](#) are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The [**Class Preparation Guide**](#) includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class; then, they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible lesson. And/Or, consider giving each student the [**Verse-by-Verse Scripture Handout**](#), which includes the Bible verses to be studied before class and other questions.

1. How many disciples saw Jesus on Resurrection Sunday?

Disciple means student follower, one who practices what they are taught. Of the original twelve disciples, Judas and Thomas were not present. Of the original twelve disciples, eleven became apostles, ones who were officially sent out by Jesus to represent Him and His message in and through the Church. There were probably other unnamed disciples who saw Jesus on Resurrection Sunday, including Mary, and others, both men and women, in the room where Jesus appeared in the evening.

2. How did Jesus get into the locked house?

John does not tell us, other than tell the fact that Jesus appeared in the room. He did not need to pass through the locked door. He did not need to have the stone removed to leave the tomb. He may have been invisible in the room and never parted from the disciples and remained as an unseen presence. Through the Holy Spirit, He would eventually live within each disciple.

3. What did Jesus show His disciples?

Jesus showed that He was not a ghost. He was himself with a real human body that still bore the marks of His crucifixion. He showed them His hands and side and breathed on them. He spoke to them with real words they all could hear and remember and tell others. They could hear, see, feel, and touch Him.

4. What blessings did Jesus give His disciples?

Jesus gave them indisputable assurance that He had risen from the dead. He gave them peace. He gave them a spirit of rejoicing or reasons to rejoice. He gave them a God-given purpose for the rest of their lives by sending them out as the Father had sent Him. He gave them the Holy Spirit. He gave them the authority to forgive sins in His name and warn people of the consequences of refusing to repent of their sins. His Father had given Jesus this same authority.

5. How did Jesus give His most important gift to His disciples?

He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

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