

Sermon Notes: The 8th Day

Scripture: John 20:19–31

Date: December 14, 2025

Big Idea: Living in the 8th Day: Embracing New Creation Life.

Key Points

1. **The First Day (John 20:19)**
 - "It was still the first day of the week..."
 - John emphasizes creation imagery: *In the beginning* (John 1:1; Genesis 1:1).
 - Locked doors → fear and hiding → Jesus brings **peace**.
2. **Jesus Appears and Commissions (John 20:21–23)**
 - "Peace be with you... As the Father sent me, so I am sending you."
 - Jesus **breathes** on them → Receive the Holy Spirit.
 - Mission: Ministry of reconciliation (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:17–20).
 - **Ambassadorial declaration:** Forgiveness comes from God; we proclaim it.
3. **Creation Connection**
 - Greek word *emphysao* (breathed) → same as Genesis 2:7.
 - New Creation begins with Christ breathing life into His people.
 - Ezekiel 37: Valley of dry bones → prophecy fulfilled in Christ.
4. **Thomas and the 8th Day (John 20:24–29)**
 - "After eight days..." → Symbol of **new beginnings**, eternal life.
 - Thomas demands proof → Jesus offers grace.
 - Declaration: "My Lord and my God!"
 - Blessing: "Happy are those who don't see and yet believe."
5. **Purpose of John's Gospel (John 20:30–31)**
 - Written so that you may **believe** and have **life** in His name.
 - Belief = transformation → New Creation reality.

Reflection Questions

- What does "living in the 8th Day" mean for you personally?
- How does Jesus' peace speak into your fears today?
- Where is God calling you to be an ambassador of reconciliation?

Takeaway

Choose between two eras:

- **Old Creation:** Fear, unbelief, self-reliance.
- **New Creation:** Peace, Spirit-empowered mission, faith that transforms.