

“The Sent Disciple”

Everything Built on the Inside Was Always Meant to Go Somewhere

Bible Study | John 20:19–21 · Isaiah 6:1–8 | August, Week 3

THIS WEEK'S TEXTS

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 6:8

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here am I. Send me!’

NEW TESTAMENT

John 20:21

Again Jesus said, ‘Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.’

SIX WEEKS OF FORMATION — AND NOW THIS

Week 1: Declared dependence on the Father. Week 2: Learned to stay on the vine. Week 3: Counted the cost and picked up the cross. Week 4: Stopped carrying what he didn’t give you. Week 5: Found out who is making you. Week 6: Gave him the mind.

Seven words that change everything for every person formed by those six weeks: As the Father has sent me, I am sending you. The formation was never the destination. It was the preparation.

START WITH THE LOCKED ROOM

The sermon opened in a locked room. Not closed — locked. Bolted from the inside. The disciples — the same people who left everything to follow Jesus — were inside, afraid, waiting for they did not know what. Three days after the crucifixion. The doors were locked because the world outside felt like the end of everything.

And then — without the door opening — Jesus was in the room.

1. Be honest about your own locked room. What fear has been keeping you from stepping out into what God has been forming you for? What door has stayed bolted from the inside?

The locked room in my own life right now — the door that fear has been keeping shut:

1

PEACE BEFORE PURPOSE — HE STEADIES THEM BEFORE HE SENDS THEM

10 min

OLD TESTAMENT

Jeremiah 1:7–8

The Lord said to me... ‘Do not say, “I am too young.” You must go to everyone I send you to... Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you.’

NEW TESTAMENT

John 20:19

Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you!’

The first word Jesus speaks in the locked room is not a mission brief. It is peace. Shalom. The settling of everything that fear had unsettled. Jeremiah received the same sequence — call, reassurance, do not be afraid, I am with you. The commission always follows the peace. You cannot be sent well if you are still afraid.

Jesus doesn’t send you because you’re no longer afraid. He gives you peace so that fear doesn’t have the final vote on whether the door stays locked.

THE PEACE HE GIVES IS NOT WHAT YOU THINK

The peace Jesus gave in that locked room was not the absence of danger. He was about to send them into the same world that had just killed him. The peace was his presence — the one who walked through walls, who conquered death, who had already been where they were going.

Sent disciples are not fearless. They are at peace in the presence of the one who goes with them. The difference is not the absence of fear. It is the presence of someone bigger than the fear.

1. Jesus gave peace before he gave purpose. What does that order say about God's understanding of what his people need before they can be sent? Where do you need to receive his peace before you can step out of your locked room?

2. Jeremiah said 'I am too young' and God said 'Do not be afraid, I am with you.' What is your version of 'I am too young' — the reason you've been giving for why you are not yet ready to be sent? And what does God's response to Jeremiah say about that reason?

The specific fear I am handing to Jesus this week so that it does not have the final vote on whether I go:

2

THE WOUNDS ARE PART OF THE COMMISSION — NOT HIDDEN, SHOWN

15 min

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 53:4–5

Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering... he was pierced for our transgressions... and by his wounds we are healed.

NEW TESTAMENT

John 20:20

He showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Before he commissioned them, he showed them the wounds. Not metaphorically. The actual hands. The actual side. He could have appeared radiant and unscathed. He chose to show the cost. And the disciples were overjoyed — not despite the wounds but because of them. Isaiah 53 had said it centuries earlier: the wounds were always the plan. The healing flows through what was borne, not around it.

Don't hide what following Jesus has cost you. Your wounds are not a weakness in your witness. They are the evidence that what you're carrying is real.

WHY HE SHOWED THE WOUNDS

The wounds are the credentials. They are the proof that the one sending the disciples is not asking them to go somewhere he himself has never been. He went first. He paid the highest price. And then he stood in the room showing his hands.

The most effective sent disciples are not the ones with no scars. They are the ones willing to show them. The person you are sent to does not need a perfect messenger. They need an honest one — one who has been through something real and came out the other side still carrying the commission.

1. Jesus chose to show his wounds rather than conceal them. What has following Jesus cost you that you have been hiding rather than using as a credential in your witness? What would it look like to show your hands?

2. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the wounds — because the wounds proved the resurrection was real. Who in your life needs to see your wounds as evidence that what you carry is real, not performance?

3. Isaiah 53 said the wounds were always part of the plan — healing flows through what was borne. Where in your own story has God used what you suffered to bring healing to someone else? Where might he be asking you to do that now?

The wound in my story I have been hiding that God may be asking me to show as a credential for his mission:

3

AS THE FATHER SENT ME — THE SAME BREATH, THE SAME ASSIGNMENT

10 min

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 61:1

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives.

NEW TESTAMENT

John 20:21

As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.

The most important word in the commission is the first one: as. Not: go do something similar. Not: represent the general spirit of my work. As — in the same manner, with the same authority, carrying the same assignment. Isaiah 61:1 is the job description Jesus read in the synagogue in Luke 4 when he announced his mission. Good news to the poor. Freedom for captives. Healing for the brokenhearted. And in John 20:21 he extends that exact assignment with two letters: as.

You are not being asked to do something Jesus would not do. You are being invited into the exact same mission he already completed — and sent to carry it to the places he is still calling you toward.

WHAT 'AS' ACTUALLY MEANS FOR YOU

The sent disciple does not wait for perfect conditions. Jesus was sent into a world that was not ready for him.

The sent disciple does not wait to feel qualified. The disciples in that locked room had abandoned him three days earlier.

The sent disciple does not wait for an invitation from the people they are sent to. Jesus was not invited. He was sent.

The formation was preparation for going. The vine, the cross, the rest, the community, the renewed mind — all of it was equipping you for the 'as.' Everything built on the inside was always meant to go somewhere.

1. Isaiah 61:1 is what Jesus read as his own job description. Good news to the poor, freedom for captives, healing for the brokenhearted. Which part of that assignment is God specifically sending you toward right now? Be specific.

2. The 'as' means same manner, same authority, same posture. Jesus went to where the need was rather than waiting for the need to come to him. Where is the need that you have been waiting to come to you, when God is asking you to go to it?

3. The sermon said: you are not being asked to do something Jesus would not do. What would change in your obedience if you genuinely believed that the one sending you had already been where you are going and already paid for the going?

The specific place, person, or community God is sending me to — named clearly, not generally:

THE COMMISSION — AND THE RESPONSE

The altar call this week was not a general commitment. It was a specific one. Jesus gave the disciples sixty seconds in a locked room to go from fear to ‘here am I, send me.’ The same invitation is open right now.

Where is Jesus sending you? Not someday. This week.

| *As the Father has sent me, I am sending you. — John 20:21*

●	Unlock	<i>The specific fear I am releasing this week — the thing that has been keeping the door bolted from the inside. What I am handing to Jesus so it does not have the final vote:</i>
●	Show	<i>The wound or cost in my story that I will stop hiding this week — and the specific person or context where I will use it as a credential instead:</i>
●	Go	<i>The specific place, person, or community I am being sent to. Not someday. This week. What I will do, and when:</i>

The formation is finished. The door is open. Go.

SCRIPTURES FOR THIS STUDY

John 20:19–21 | Isaiah 6:1–8 | Isaiah 53:4–5 | Isaiah 61:1 | Jeremiah 1:4–8

NEXT WEEK: ‘Keep Growing’ | Philippians 3:12–14 | The Series Finale — Being sent doesn’t mean being finished.