St. John's EBCs, Everyday Bible Conversations!

EBC 3, 2, 1! – On Location in 2023! Leading to Worship Sunday, May 28, 2023

Reading: John 20:19-23

EBC focuses on bringing the Bible into our Everyday Lives, emphasizing God's Everyday presence by finding connections in our physical world! EBC also has a video component on the St. John's website, for those who find that easier (or more fun!). This week's video is all about locked rooms, and getting out! Click here: https://youtu.be/PVWJ7-vjTUk Welcome to this week's EBC 3,2,1! Three points, two questions, and one action step!

Three Points

- This week we celebrate Pentecost. In John 20, we revisit Easter Sunday evening. Jesus appears to his disciples who are hiding in a locked room.
- Not only does Jesus appear to the disciples, he breathes the Holy Spirit into them. "[H]e breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'"
- The Holy Spirit is not just a gift for us, it is a charge to us. Jesus said, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

Two Questions

- Why do you think John 20:19 makes such a point of setting the scene behind locked doors? Do we really need to be told the disciples are afraid? Do we really need a (another) miracle from Jesus, to appear in a locked room? (He was just Risen!) What else might these events be telling us about our own tendency to close up rather than reach out?
- This story tells us of Jesus breathing the Holy Spirit into his disciples. There is also a familiar story of Pentecost in Acts 2. What does it mean to you that Jesus does not just send us the Holy Spirit once, but repeatedly sends us the Holy Spirit?

Action Step

- Unlock your doors! God is sending you to do Jesus' work in the world!

Don't like these questions? Do these verses say something different to you? Great! What it is?

And as always, you are encouraged to find a friend (or two or many) and take an EBC coffee break! Find 15-25 minutes somewhere in the week and share your faith. Have fun finding God this week in your Everyday Life!