## **Turning Point Connections**

(for the week of April 11, 2021)

This Week's Scripture: John 20:19-31

## Key Idea from Sermon

Jesus connects us to each other.

- ▶ Read John 20:19-31 and answer the following questions.
- 1. Beginning with the end of this week's Scripture (vv. 30-31), what purpose does the Apostle John give for writing his Gospel? (Who does John want you to believe Jesus is? And what will be the result for believing this about Jesus?)
- 2. What does it mean to "have life in his name" (v. 31)? In what ways have you already experienced this "life" to which John is referring?
- 3. As you think about the key events (or, "signs") in the life and ministry of Jesus, which ones do you find most captivating? Which ones played a significant role in bringing you to faith in Christ as Messiah, Son of God, and Savior (your "Turning Point")?
- 4. Read verses 19-23. Jesus had just been crucified. What emotions do you think the disciples were experiencing and why?
- 5. What are the first words Jesus spoke to the disciples after he miraculously appeared to them? Why was it important that he spoke those words to them? How did they respond?

- 6. How did you respond when you first realized that Jesus was not a dead historical religious figure, but was truly raised from the dead and lives today? In what way was that a "turning point" in your life?
- 7. The "Sent One" is now the "Sender." This part of John 20 is sometimes referred to as John's "Great Commission." What does John say Jesus sent his disciples to do? How does that compare with Matthew's version of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20)?
- 8. According to verse 22, what does Jesus provide the disciples with to equip them for their mission? Why is this important (essential)?
- 9. What did Jesus mean (and not mean) in verse 23? (You may want to consult a Study Bible or online commentary to help you answer this one.)
- 10. Read verses 24-29. After seeing Jesus "in the flesh," how did Thomas respond to Jesus? What is the significance of Thomas' response? What is important about the way Jesus, in turn, responded to Thomas and how does that encourage you?
- 11. Returning to the theme of our first two questions, who are three people in your "<u>Personal Mission</u> <u>Field</u>" that you can share this life-giving, good news with? Based on this week's lesson, what will you share with them?
- 12. As a group, pray (specifically or generally) for those people in your <u>Personal Mission Field</u>. Ask the Lord to begin to prepare their hearts and minds to be receptive to this good news (Gospel). And pray for the same Holy Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead and who was breathed out upon the disciples in our Scripture, to work in and through you as you share the Gospel with those you are praying for.