

inspired!



Sunday 7th May 2017

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Inspired - Breathe on me

John 20 : 19 - 23

1. What things or people inspire you?
2. When did the events in our reading take place? (vs 19)
3. From whom did the disciples receive their inspiration?
4. Note that Jesus twice said "Peace be to you". What do you understand as the meaning of this peace?
5. How can this peace and calm manifest itself in our homes - in our neighbourhood?
6. What is the significance of Jesus breathing on them? (vs 22). See also Genesis 1:7.
7. On first reading verse 23, the thought of his disciples being empowered to forgive sins seems to go against our protestant beliefs! (There is none who can forgive sins except God Mark 2:7). But consider the historical setting of the day when the Jewish Sanhedrin had the power to create religious laws and to enforce them. The Jews were either bound or loosed. Jesus came to free human kind from laws. Jesus was giving a mandate to his followers to act as He did. (vs 21). Discuss this.
8. If we, as human beings, exist because God breathed life into us in Eden, how much more should we accept this free gift of His Holy Spirit, the same as was breathed on his disciples 2000 years ago?
9. There is a painting by Vincent van Gogh of the prodigal son. It shows the father, the son and the onlookers. The question posed is, which one represents you. The answer comes, I am the prodigal son, repenting before my Father and receiving forgiveness. May this be your experience!



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