

I HAVE CHOSEN YOU

Speaker: Resource

Time: Monday 7:30 a.m.

Length: 15 minutes maximum

Purpose:

To focus on a Pentecost theme: confidence in the resurrected Christ, confidence that comes from God's Holy Spirit. To see the resurrection community built yesterday as a missionary community with Christ as the Head, strengthened through prayer. To be challenged to go to the world to share God's love in Christ.

Outline: Begin Your Talk Here

Introduction:

Announce the passages in the Arise Book, which set the theme for the day: John 20:21 and Acts 1:8. Read as if one passage as printed here. "Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father sent Me, so I send you. But when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power, and you will be witnesses for Me in Jerusalem, in all of Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.'"

1. Can I be His witness? I have seen who I am, and I repent of my sin in dust and ashes. If that were all, it would be impossible for me to be His witness. (DIE DAY)
2. But I have also seen the risen Lord and found the new me in Him. (RISE DAY)
3. But can I GO? Can I serve? Can I be a witness? (GO DAY)

I. Being Jesus' witnesses seems unrealistic.

Like the disciples on Maundy Thursday and like Peter, we say:

- "I'll do anything for You, Lord; but I'm not sure I can wash feet."
- "I'll do anything, but I'm not sure I can stand up to a world that makes fun of me."
- "I'll be Your witness, Lord, but I don't know what to say."

Sound familiar? (*Relate any personal experiences from your life.*)

II. You just need faith like a mustard seed.

1. With God-given faith in Jesus Christ, you can be His witnesses. Faith is like good seed. It grows and bears a hundredfold (Mark 4:3-9). It is like the mustard seed, which is the smallest seed but grows to be the biggest tree (Mark 4:31-32).
2. But you can't do it alone (nor does God expect you to). He gives us the Holy Spirit, who promises to teach you what to say and who will give you the strength to help you when you feel weak (John 14:26). When Jesus ascended to heaven, He told His followers to GO! But He also said that He would send the Helper, the Holy Spirit. With the Spirit living in us, we can be witnesses.

III. Christ gives comfort for us.

Jesus didn't leave us alone. Because His Spirit is living inside us, He is always with us. And He gives us His Word. Listen to the words of Jesus for you:

- “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:18–20)
- “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34–35)
- “These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.” (John 14:25–27)

No discussion question follows this talk.