



Sermon Discussion Guide The Sending God- James Junior 4/12/26

Hook - Getting to know one another

- *How is everyone doing this week? Add other questions to get to know one another, especially ones related to the topic in the sermon.*
 - *Have you ever been sent to do something that felt important and/or intimidating? What was it like?*
 - *What is the best trip or journey you have ever been sent on? This could be one that was planned or unexpected.*
 - *Have you ever had a moment in your life that you felt you were in the right place at the right time? What was the moment and why did you feel that way?*

Book - Scripture

- *Read the scripture passages and discuss to understand **what the text is saying:***
 - **John 20:19-22 New International Version**
 - **Jesus Appears to His Disciples**
 - **19** *On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"* **20** *After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.* **21** *Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the*



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*Father has sent me, I am sending you.” 22 And with that he
breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.*

Genesis 12:1-3 New International Version

- The Call of Abram

- **12** The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your
people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.
2 “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will
make your name great, and you will be a blessing.^a **3** I will
bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will
curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

- John 20:19-22

- What situation are the disciples in when Jesus appears to them?
- What does Jesus say to the disciples more than once?
- What connection does Jesus make between His mission and theirs?
- What does Jesus do when He says “receive the Holy Spirit”?
- What do you think Jesus means by “as The Father has sent me, I send you”?
- Why do you think Jesus gives His spirit at the same time He sends His disciples?

- In Genesis 12:1-3



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- *What specific instructions does God give to Abraham?*
- *What promises does God make to him?*
- *Who is ultimately meant to be blessed through Abraham?*
- *How does the promise of Abraham connect to the mission of Jesus and the Church today?*
- *Both passages*
 - *What does it mean that God is a “sending God” and how do these passages reflect that?*

Look - Connections to our world today

- *This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what’s wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.*
 - *Why do you think it’s important that our mission in the world begins with God and not us?*
 - *What is our role (as the Church or individually) versus God’s role in missions?*
 - *What do you think might happen if the Church skips over God’s part in missions?*

Took - Personal Application

- *This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.*
 - *Where do you see God already at work in your life right now?*
 - *Who do you notice around you in your daily life (whether it be in work, school, your neighborhood, the church, etc.) that God might be working in the life of right now?*



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- *What makes you hesitate to answer Jesus' call to be his witnesses to the world? (can pull from James Junior's examples if you'd like: 1) "I'm not good with words. I could never explain my faith clearly enough. I'd just mess it up." Or 2) "I'll just live a good life. I'll be kind and generous. And if people are curious, they'll ask." Or 3) Isn't that what missionaries and pastors are for? I'll support them financially. That's my part." Or 4) "you just don't want to be that person. The pushy Christian who brings up faith and makes every conversation uncomfortable and weird."*
- *How would your mindset change if you truly believed God was working ahead of you?*
- *What is one practical way you could join God's work this week? This could be a conversation, an act of kindness, a prayer.*
- *How can you rely more on the Holy Spirit instead of your own ability when it comes to sharing your faith?*
- *What is one step of obedience you feel God prompting you to take?*

Optional group exercise:

- *Spend a few moments in silence asking God to show you where He is already at work.*
 - *"God, where are you already at work in my life and in the lives of those around me right now?"*
- *Share anything that comes to mind*
- *Pray over each other that you would each have eyes to see and courage to respond.*

Time of Prayer