Peace Breaks In

John 20:19-21

Introduction:

1. What are examples of three ways you may have felt **<u>paralyzed</u>** during this time of crisis?

with *anxiety* (for example, "Who will be next?")

with *anger* ("How could a good God...?"

with *agnosticism* ("What I don't understand is..."?)

Reading (Scripture Reference):

Read John 20:19-21

Understanding:

<u>See</u> the Resurrected Jesus

2. What did Jesus say when he came and stood among the disciples, and what did he show them (John 20:19-20)? How did they respond?

Receive Peace for your Mind

3. From the sermon: Peter Kreeft, who teaches philosophy at Boston College, said this: "God gives us just enough evidence so that those who want Him can have Him. Those who want to follow the clues will." What historical evidence and clues have led you to believe Jesus Christ rose from the dead?

Receive Peace for your <u>Heart</u>

4. Have you recognized something in yourself that a novelist named Mary Gordon, who teaches writing at Barnard College says, "is fundamentally wrong with you and that you cannot fix yourself?" Have you seen that the main problem in you and me—and the whole world is sin? If not, what would others who know you very well say about this?

What is God Sending You to Do?

- 5. Even if you're one of the vulnerable ones who can't go out and help others, God wants to use you during this time. What are some ways you could help others? Some examples could include:
 - give of your finances,
 - write encouraging notes by e-mail or social media or mail,
 - join with others in online Bible studies,
 - smile at neighbors (from six feet away),
 - pray with others (Thursday night at 7pm-see the website for a link)
 - shop for others

Prayer:

Ask God to heal the *paralysis* caused by anxiety, anger, or agnosticism. Ask him to fill you to overflowing with *peace* and to show you the *purpose* he has for you in such a time as this.