

we are...**resurrection people**



Week 4

We are Easter people living in a Good Friday world.

Barbara Johnson

The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.

Romans 8:11 [NLT]

Acts 2:42-47

⁴²All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.

⁴³A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. ⁴⁴And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. ⁴⁵They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. ⁴⁶They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—⁴⁷all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

A resurrection tribe always PURSUES and PROTECTS unity.

John 17:21-23

²¹I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one - as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. ²²I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. ²³I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me.

Let the **FRUIT** be your guide!

Galatians 5:22-23a

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

WORDS matter!

James 3:2b-6

²For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way. ³We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. ⁴And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong.

⁵In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches. But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. ⁶And among all the parts of the body, the tongue is a flame of fire.

Stay laser focused on your **PURPOSE!**

Acts 1:8 [NLT]

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere – in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

“This is what the Christian life is all about: learning to love one another, by the power of God’s grace, so we can flourish as the people of God in this world. The purpose of the church is to be the kingdom in the present world, and the Christian life is all about learning to live into that kingdom reality in the here and now.” (Scot McKnight)

SO WHAT?

In what way(s) is God asking you to pursue or protect **UNITY?**

Notes:

How to start a relationship with God:

- 1) *Admitting* that you, like everyone else, are in need of rescue.
- 2) *Asking* God to forgive your sins.
- 3) *Saying YES* to God by trusting Jesus as Savior & Lord.

You can do that right now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to look to you and follow you all the days of my life. In Your name, Amen.

For Further Reflection:

:: Read Acts 2:42-47.

:: *What truths about community stand out to you here?*

:: *What part of this passage would be easiest/hardest for you to lean into?*

:: Read John 17:21-23. *In light of Jesus' prayer, why is unity so important?*

:: Revisit Galatians 5:22. *How can a 'fruit audit' be helpful in maintaining unity as resurrection people? Name a recent moment where your actions or words bore Holy Spirit fruit. If you are brave, name a time when they did not bear fruit.*

:: Read James 3:2-6. *Talk about the power of our words from two angles: How they can be used for building others up... or how they can be used for destruction.*

:: Pastor Josh talked about the importance of focusing on our purpose.

:: *Discuss the ways that this maintains unity.*

:: *Discuss the idea Josh talked about: we are "actors carrying on God's story."*

:: Pastor Josh talks about three ways to pursue unity... but there are many others. *What are some other actions/rhythms that would be helpful in protecting unity?*

:: *What is one new way that you can begin to pursue or protect unity this week?*

Unless otherwise noted, today's Scripture is from the New Living Translation [NLT].

Josh Howard (@joshhoward77) – May 18 & 19, 2019

Watch this message and other recent messages online at heritageqc.com/watch

Friends -

Thank you for the prayers and support you have generously given in response to the flooding at our BridgePointe 485 facility. We are continuing to assess the ongoing impact of this unprecedented event; we have activated professional decontamination along with volunteer teams for restoration.

As we continue forward, here's how you can help today:

PRAY

- For those impacted by this flooding—those in our cities and all along the Mississippi as they move towards recovery.
- For forecasted rain to be minimized.
- For safety for the professional and volunteer crews working at BridgePointe.

GIVE

- Text: Simply text the word FLOOD and the amount you want to donate to 309.517.0680 (i.e. "FLOOD 50" to give \$50)
- Online: Go to heritageqc.com and click the RED banner to access the DONATE NOW button and complete your gift.

RALLY

Several of us gathered this weekend to take next steps in our restoration journey. More opportunities will be coming soon; track our progress online and by using this graphic:



The Scoop: Join us on Sunday, May 19th at 6pm for The Scoop, to be held at the RI Campus. Childcare will be available for those up thru age 8. All are welcome to attend.

LCC Voting Weekend: On June 1st & 2nd all official members of Heritage are encouraged to vote! Please stop by the table in the lobby to check in and vote for Local Board members, budget, and conference delegates.



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