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Choosing Courage in a Crisis

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John 20:19 (NIV): 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...

John 20:19 (NIV): 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!"

Question: How Does Jesus Help Us Choose Courage?

Answer #1: He Meets Us in the Midst of Our Emotion

Hebrews 4:15 (AMP): For we do not have a High Priest who is unable to sympathize and understand our weaknesses and temptations, but One who has been tempted [knowing exactly how it feels to be human] in every respect as we are, yet without [committing any] sin.

Hebrews 4:16 (NIV): Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Answer #2: He Fills Us with His Peace

John 20:20-21 (NIV): After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you..."

Peace isn't found in the absence of chaos, but in the presence of Christ!

Answer #3: He Sends Us Out as His Representatives

John 20:21 (NIV): ... "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

John 1:14 (NIV): The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Answer #4: He Empowers Us with His Spirit

John 20:22 (NIV): And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

Acts 4:29-31 (NIV): "Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus." After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

Declaration

I choose courage, come what may;
For Christ I stand, I will not sway.

When fear and troubles are all around,
I run to You - where peace is found.

Your Word is truth, Your Name is power,
You have sent me for this hour.

Filled with Your Spirit, You're all I need;
I'll be bold wherever You lead.

I choose courage each day from here;
Because of You, I will not fear!