



Home Teams
DISCUSSION GUIDE

RESTORE

CONTINUING THE UNFINISHED JOURNEY

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

WEEK 1: From Fear to Faith

📌 **Big Idea**

God wants to use us to reach our world and He can do that more effectively when we are bold enough to trust Him!

▶ **Watch Week 1 Video** (on DVD or at pathwaychurch.com/messages/restore)

📖 **Read, Discuss, and Journal Answers**

OPENING QUESTIONS

1. Can you remember something from childhood that you were really afraid to do or try? What did it take to get over it?

2. Have you ever felt called to take a major step for God and yet fear crippled you from taking it? Are you in that season right now?

3. Have you ever faced a financial crisis that was so severe that you were concerned you might not be able to recover from it?

READ

JOHN 20:19-21 NIV

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 Father has sent me, I am sending you."

JOHN 20:26-27 NIV

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

ACTS 2:1 NIV

¹ When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.

IN THE WORD

1. John 20:19 tells us that the disciples were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Who do you think is meant by that? Are they not afraid of the Roman soldiers or leaders?

2. John 20 and Acts 2 are extremes in some ways—John 20 describes

fearful isolation from people while Acts 2 seems to place the believers in a public place with thousands of listeners prior to the miraculous display of the Holy Spirit. What do you think has happened to them? Why?

4. In John 20:20 and 20:27, Jesus makes a point of showing them his hands and side. Thomas even protests that unless he touches these wounds, he won't believe. Was it really necessary for faith? Could they/ did they believe without this evidence? Why was this so important to them?

5. Three times in these early resurrection appearances Jesus speaks words of "peace" to the disciples (John 20:19, 21, 26). But later, prior to his ascension in Acts 1, it isn't mentioned. What do you think is the reason for this?

MAKING IT PERSONAL

1. As an adult, what would you say is your greatest fear or concern with the future?

2. Describe a time when you experienced a "faith-building" event in your

life—a time or circumstance in which you trusted God, stepped out, and found God to be faithful. Did everything go easily, or did God instead help you deal with the obstacles? Did you experience peace during that time?

3. Regardless of how much wealth is accumulated, financial insecurity is a persistent worry for many. What do you think it takes to overcome this fear? How would you describe your progress in this area?

4. In times of fear we seek peace and in times of faith/action we need direction and power. Recall a time when your fear was replaced by peace that Jesus promised. Recall a time that God guided you and provided for you when your faith was stretched.

PRAY

Pray for each person in your Home Team as they consider their next steps in Unfinished. During this mid-point of the Unfinished journey, we are praying that 100% of us at Pathway would take a step of faith in one of three ways:

1. For those who have not yet joined the *Unfinished* journey, to be challenged to step out in faith and make a commitment to generosity for our final year of *Unfinished*. Trust God in this area of giving and take that step with us as a church as we declare we are an *unfinished* work in Him.

2. For those who are on the *Unfinished* journey and find yourself giving it everything you've got just to make it through, be encouraged. Commit to finish strong. There is a reason why you made your original *Unfinished* commitment, and we encourage you in that as you step out in faith in this second year of *Unfinished*.

3. For others on the *Unfinished* journey, you stepped out in faith last year and your journey has never been easy at all. However, one year later, you now find yourself back in a comfortable place. Maybe you've had an increase in faith, maybe an increase in finances, maybe God's provision has surprised you. You now find yourself in a position where you don't feel you are living as much by faith as you are by plans. You are ready for yet another step of faith in this journey.

CONTINUED LEARNING

(self-study throughout the week)

1. What evidence can you find in the opening chapters of Acts that the disciples are no longer afraid? You might consider Acts 4:13, 4:29, 7:51-53.

2. The disciples who walked and lived with Jesus were severely tested in their faith by the persecution they went through. However, they also had a great deal of evidence on which to base their faith. If you have not eaten with and physically touched Jesus, what is the basis of your faith today?