



Living empowered

John 20:21-23 NKJV

²¹ So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”
²² And when He had said this, He breathed on *them*, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they are retained.”

John 14:12-13 NKJV

¹² “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father. ¹³ And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask anything in My name, I will do *it*.

John 14:25-27 NKJV

²⁵ “These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. ²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

John 20:21-23 NKJV

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John 3:5-8 NKJV

⁵ Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

Empowerment for mission in the Gospel of John

- Jesus defines himself as someone who has been sent, and speaks of the Father as the sender.
- The Godhead is defined in terms of mission.
- The three members of the Godhead empower us to mission.
- The Church is defined by its mission to the world

A shaliach (Hebrew: שְׁלִיחַ; pl. שְׁלִיחִים, sheliḥim)

1. He is legal emissary or agent in Jewish law (Halakha) who performs an action on behalf of the person who sent them.
2. He carries the authority of the one who sent him and is bound by oath to carry out his command.
3. In Talmudic law, the core principle governing a shaliach is “a person's shaliach is as he himself,” allowing agents to handle ritual and civil obligations.
4. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them, if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.

Discussion Questions

1. Jesus says, “As the Father has sent Me, I also send you”. How should knowing that we are *sent by Jesus* change the way we see our everyday lives, workplaces, families and communities?
2. Jesus describes the Holy Spirit as the Helper who teaches us and reminds us of His words. How can we become more aware of and responsive to the Holy Spirit in our everyday lives?
3. Jesus says, “Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” What tends to steal your peace, and how can the Holy Spirit help you respond differently?
4. Ps Brian describes the Church as being defined by its mission to the world and explains the idea of a *shaliach*—an agent who carries the authority of the one who sends them. Where might God be asking you to represent Him more boldly this week?



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