

Connection Group Discussion Questions

For the week of April 8, 2018

Luke 24:36b-49

These questions are to be used as a spring board for discussion.

Answers may or may not be found in the sermons.

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?" ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Connection Questions:

1. What does Jesus say or do to assure his disciples he really is the one who died and is now raised?

2. How many times in verses 36-43 are words used that refer to seeing? How important is seeing in the disciples' mission? Why?

3. What words and phrases communicated the thoughts of Jesus' followers in verses 37-43? When have you wanted to believe something, but couldn't believe it at the same time?

4. In verses 44-47, what does Jesus want his followers to understand? How does he help them understand? When have you experienced a similar "breakthrough" in Bible study?

5. Why is it so important to depend on the Holy Spirit for power?

6. What does it mean to be a witness? What makes it easy?