

**Luke 24:36-48 (NIV)**

<sup>36</sup> While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

<sup>37</sup> They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. <sup>38</sup> He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? <sup>39</sup> Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”

<sup>40</sup> When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. <sup>41</sup> And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup> They gave him a

piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate it in their presence.

<sup>44</sup> He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things.

**Sermon for April 14, 2024:** [www.collegechurch.org/college-church-online](http://www.collegechurch.org/college-church-online)

**KNOW ...** *God and his Word.*

- Why do you believe the disciples did not recognize Jesus? What did they think was among them? Name the ways Jesus was providing evidence that it was truly him. Was Jesus request for food and eating in their presence significant? Why or why not?
- Besides trying to open their eyes to his presence among them, Jesus opened their understanding and put the pieces together about his identity through Scripture and opening their minds. What Scriptures do you think were going through the disciples' minds from the “Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms”? (*I give you permission to open your phones or search a study Bible to dig in and find examples.*) How might opening their (or our) understanding through Scripture help them (us) in the future — personally and as witnesses to the world?
- Last week we studied John’s account of Jesus coming to where the disciples are, appearing and speaking to them (John 20:19-31). Like John, Luke chooses to record these words, “Peace be with you!” The word peace used here and in John comes from the word *shalom* — which means “wholeness, health, and completeness.” Why do you think Luke recorded those words? What does Jesus say and do that brings them peace? In what ways does Jesus’ actions of peace help equip them to be “witnesses of these things” (v. 48)?
- Discuss any additional insights, thoughts or questions you may have for Luke 24:36-48.

**ACT ...** *responding to & applying what we know.*

- Are we blind to the Lord’s presence? Why or why not? Name things that create blindness, making people (us) struggle to see him near.

- Discuss a time you failed to recognize God's nearness. Was there anything present or absent in your life that created this failure to see? What is the fastest way for you to recognize God near or around you?
- The Miriam-Webster Dictionary defines a witness as "one who has personal knowledge of something" or "attestation of a fact or event." Jesus states the disciples were to be witnesses in verse 48. Name the things they witnessed while walking with Jesus, from beginning through the resurrection. Now, think about your life. What have you witnessed that convinces you that Jesus is risen and is who he claims to be? Who can you share one of these examples with this week?

**BE ... living in light of what we've heard, becoming more like Christ.**

He is risen! He is RISEN INDEED!

As Pastor Mark pointed out Sunday, "More and more people don't know! ... We have to proclaim it!" How can we keep silent and not proclaim this gospel of good news to the world and specifically to those around us?

I challenge you to PRAY and ASK the Lord for a **divine appointment** this week — an opportunity like Peter and John had in Acts 3:1-8 to intersect someone in need. LISTEN for the Holy Spirit's leading in how to meet that need and boldly proclaim the good news in word and deed through that **divine appointment**.

KEEP becoming more like Jesus!

Grace and peace,  
*Pastor Angela*

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