

## Profound and Purposeful Presence (Easter) Luke 24:36-53

**vs. 36**, Peace to you!

What does Jesus mean by peace?

No matter the chaos, there is a truth to be found in Jesus. That truth is peace!

**John 14:27** Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

**vs. 37-38**, spirit - a ghost, the residue of what had been the life of the person.

- The disciples are as confused as ever. They are slow of heart to believe.

**Perhaps** this is where you find yourself when it comes to all things related to Jesus, Are you slow of heart to believe?

**Luke 24:11** but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.

Unbelief? Wondering? Nonsense?

Why are you troubled? Why do you have doubts?

**vs. 39**, I am fully here. I am not a ghost. Touch and see (my hands and my feet).

- I am physically present with you.

**vs. 40**, Take a closer look.

**Perhaps** this is what you need to hear this Easter morning, "Take a closer look at the reality of Jesus."

**vs. 41**,

Even in the middle of the hard facts, they still had doubts, but in the middle of their doubts joy and marvel were rising in the depth of their being at the possibilities.

**Perhaps** this is your faith experience. You see the possibilities, you even believe that the reality of Jesus is mostly true. The evidence certainly seems to check out. Yet you still hesitate. Will you let the joy and marvel of Jesus rise to the surface?

Have you anything here to eat?

Hospitality -> the friendly reception and treatment of guests or strangers; treating guests and strangers in a warm, friendly, and generous way.

Because we are chosen, loved, and set apart as holy, it is our joy that leads us toward hospitality!

- We have a responsibility.
- We have been given a task.
- We have been entrusted with a truth that cannot be held tightly for ourselves.

Hospitality is an essential vein to the opening of the *Kingdom* and the clarity of the *Gospel*.

**vs. 42-43**, They give him a piece of broiled fish and he eats.

Luke is doing something very subtle for his readers.

**Luke 24:28-31** So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, **29** but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to

stay with them. **30** When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. **31** And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight.

Bread / Fish

**Luke 9:13, 16** But he said to them, “You give them something to eat.” They said, “We have no more than five loaves and two fish—unless we are to go and buy food for all these people.” **16** And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing over them. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd.

*Remember!* It is me. Your friend, teacher, savior.  
We have walked together.  
You have seen the beauty and abundance of the kingdom.  
We have shared a meal many times.

**Perhaps** this is what you need to hear. Remember! Is it possible that in the middle of your pain, confusion, and busyness you have forgotten the beauty and abundance of God’s kingdom. Remember, you have shared a meal with Jesus many times.

Painting by Kirsten Van Mourick (The Eucharist)

This is Luke highlighting eucharistic theology. *Remember, celebrate, engage in conviviality. Jesus is everything.*

**vs. 44-49**, Connecting the dots.

The crucifixion, death, and resurrection of Jesus fulfilled the mandate of Scripture.  
And Now...  
Be proclaimers of the good news to all nations!

We are currently in the middle of the next chapter of the revelation of Christ.  
The truth is carried on by people representing and empowered by Jesus.

**\*\*If your exposure to Christianity has not been chapters 5-7 of the gospel of Matthew**  
Blessed are the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the meek, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, and those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake.

**-OR-**

The beautiful display of lives radically changed by the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control Galatians 5:22-23), then you haven’t been exposed to genuine Christianity and humble Christ followers.

**Acts 26:22-23** To this day I have had the help that comes from God, and so I stand here testifying both to small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would come to pass: **23** that the Christ must suffer and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles.”

**vs. 49**, You will need help.

He gently asks them to take it all in, his hands and feet, the sharing of a meal, the teaching / scriptural exposition, and soon the experience of the ascension of Jesus.

**Perhaps** you need to repent and renew the reflection that you have of Jesus.

**Perhaps** this is the year well you will speak of the delight of Jesus without reservation.

**vs. 50-53**,

It is these truths that will bring about in you a mature faith. This is resurrection faith.

This is Easter!  
The truth of the resurrection.  
The enormity of the forgiveness of sin.  
The tenderness of repentance.  
The hope of a life lived in Jesus centered peace.

**Luke 22:69** But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God.”

Because of Easter we have the joy and experiential knowledge to be a witness.