



We are fellow strugglers! Each of us has at least one area of our lives where something seems hopeless and we find it hard to believe. Jesus Christ knew that we would be challenged to find certainty, and that is why he came out of the tomb on Easter morning. He could have gone back to heaven and left his disciples shattered and their faith in ruins. He showed up on Easter Morning so that just like them, we can believe

BELEIVING IS FAITH IN ACTION:

- Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things *are* possible to him who believes.
²⁴Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!” (**MARK 9:23-24, NKJV**).
 - I believe there is a God but....
 - I believe but why would God allow such bad things to happen?
 - I believe in God.... just not the God of my religious upbringing
 - I used to believe but something happened and now I question everything
- **HEALTHY FAITH IS HONEST FAITH!**

To be honest, most of us know the “what” about Easter, but we struggle with the “why.”

- **GOOD NEWS!**

Let me now remind you, dear brothers and sisters, of the Good News I preached to you before. You welcomed it then, and you still stand firm in it. ²It is this Good News that saves you if you continue to believe the message I told you—unless, of course, you believed something that was never true in the first place.

³I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. ⁴He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. ⁵**He was seen** by Peter and then by the Twelve. ⁶After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. ⁷After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. ⁸Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time (**1CORINTHIANS 15:1-6, & 7-8, NLT**).

- And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless, and you are still guilty of your sins. ¹⁸In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! ¹⁹And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world. ²⁰**But in fact**, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died (**1 CORINTHIANS 15:17-20, NLT**).

- Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶but they were kept from recognizing him.

¹⁷He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?” They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” ¹⁹“What things?” he asked.

- **INVITE CHRIST TO MEET YOU IN THE MESSY MOMENTS**

¹⁹ “About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²²In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³but didn’t find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.”

○ **FAITH OPENS OUR EYES TO SEE THE SUPERNATURAL**

²⁵ He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

²⁸ As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³² They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?” (**LUKE 24:13-32, NIV**).

○ **ALLOW THE HOLY SPIRIT TO LIGHT A FIRE IN YOUR HEART.**

- **Fire= God’s Presence+ God’s Passion+ God’s Purity**
- **WHAT IS THE “HEART ISSUE” THAT REQUIRES AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE RESSURECTED CHRIST?**