

the TAKE HOME 04.12.15

Today's Scripture Passage: *Luke 24:36-49 page 749*

36 While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." 37 They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. 38 He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? 39 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." 40 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. 41 And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate it in their presence. 44 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." 45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. 46 He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Questions for Reflection & Discussion

1. Why do you think Jesus made reference to the Scriptures on this occasion? (vs 46)
2. What does it mean that "Jesus opened their minds so they could understand the scriptures?
Is it necessary for God to do the same for us today?
3. Why was it important for Jesus to convince the disciples it was Him standing before them in a "real" body? What was the same/different about Jesus' risen body ?
4. Why was the promise of the Father necessary?
5. Are we, the present church, "convincing" the world about Jesus?
Why or why not?

Prayer Prompts:

1. We would be so "convinced" Jesus lives that we would be convincing before the world.
2. Our church will experience and demonstrate the power of the Holy Spirit.