

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT
APRIL 28, 2022

Cleopas and Simon immediately returned to Jerusalem to share the news of their eye witness to the living Jesus. Hardly had they arrived than Jesus appeared in the room where all of them were gathered. See Luke 24:36-49. We realize now that Jesus has power that He had not demonstrated before his death. He is no longer restrained by physical conditions. The disciples think that they are seeing a ghost.

We need not be so judgmental of these people. Although they had seen Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead, Jesus was the one with that power, and He had been crucified until dead and He had been buried. How could it be that Jesus was alive? How will He prove himself? He takes fish and eats with them. Only a real person could do that. He invites them to touch Him, to handle Him, to check out his scars from the crucifixion.

And then, Jesus does the same thing with these disciples that He had done with Cleopas and Simon. He opens their understanding to the prophecies and their fulfillment through all of the events that have happened. These disciples who had been hand-picked to upset the world had been huddled together for fear behind locked doors. They must become people of courage and spiritual daring if they are to carry out the mission of Christ after his ascension.

These disciples are now witnesses who can personally testify to the grace that offers to all forgiveness from sin and abundant life. Jesus tells them to remain in Jerusalem and minister there first, but they will find themselves sent into the furthest corners of the known world.

Jesus will spend more time with these disciples before his return to heaven. He has taught them during all of these years that they have ministered together, but now they need to truly understand his teaching.

But wait. There is someone missing. Thomas is not in the room.

Lord, continue to open our understanding and to see You more clearly. Amen.

Pastor Louise