

Small Group Material

Love not fear - fearing hope: Luke 24.36-49

Word Set this story in context as you start: *It's still the Sunday, the day Jesus rose. He'd appeared to a number of his followers including two on the road to Emmaus. They'd rushed back to Jerusalem, found the disciples, gathered with others, and were telling them what had happened.*

Then get someone to read Luke 24.36-49.

1. How do you think the disciples were feeling before Jesus appeared to them? In what ways is our current situation similar to theirs? (eg locked doors, John 20.19 - isolation; fear; lives disrupted; questions about the future)
2. And when Jesus appears how did they react?
How do you think you might have reacted - and why?
3. What do you think Jesus wanted them to understand? (Both, 1) that he really was risen and alive and 2) to understand the significance of his death and resurrection for repentance and forgiveness)
5. How might their feelings have changed as Jesus spoke with them?
What has particularly helped you spiritually over the past few weeks?
6. How hard or easy do you find it to believe that Jesus rose? What helped you come to believe this?
7. In so many of Jesus' resurrection appearances, he gives them something to do. What commission does he give them here?

In these strange times, have you found ways in which you can 'be a witness'? How?

Worship A song to listen to or sing: How deep the Father's love for us https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3IQUXJ_H16Y

Witness

Spend some time both in praying for one another but also focus your prayers outwards.

You might pray for:

The government

The NHS, care providers and other key workers

Those under stress through losing livelihoods, being particularly vulnerable, those afraid or grieving, those ill from other conditions whose treatment is put on hold

Schools & universities, teachers, children and those home schooling

Our brothers and sisters in other countries where there is far less medical or social support.