

Parish of Ferndown

Study sheet for week commencing 27th April 2008

Encountering Jesus: Luke 24:36-49

1. Humanly speaking, Jesus' disciples had really let him down and not prevented his suffering. Why therefore is the opening greeting of Jesus in v.37 so remarkable?
2. When we let Jesus down, and ask for forgiveness, what do we think he will say to us? Are we assured of our forgiven status?
3. Luke says the disciples were troubled by the ghost-like figure of Jesus. Have you ever experienced any supernatural appearances, either comforting or disturbing?
4. EXERCISE ON PAPER! Jesus' appearance was physical and yet also changed. He could eat, but also disappear at will! His appearing gave the disciples joy and amazement (v.41). What elements of our faith give the greatest joy, and amazement? Have a go at writing the answers on paper then reading them out as encouraging statements.
5. In verse 45 we hear that Jesus opened their minds to understand the scriptures. Read John 16:13. Who do we need to ask to open the Scriptures to us? What happens when we don't?
6. Why does it matter that the first disciples actually witnessed the risen Christ?
7. In what ways are you impatient with God? How might things have turned out differently if the disciples hadn't waited for the power of the Holy Spirit to fulfil God's plan?
8. What might God be teaching you about relying on his Spirit in work situations, health, relationships etc.?

PRAYER POINTERS:

- (a) Praise God for the Resurrection!
- (b) Ask God to give you patience, increased faith, and total reliance upon His Spirit this week.

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