

April 13, 2024

Peace Be with You

[Luke 24: 36-43](#)

While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? 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." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence."

When I was 14 my mother took me to the Good Friday Service at our church. It was the first time I remember going to a Good Friday Service. When we walked into the church, the large cross that hung on the front wall was draped in black. But I saw Jesus and as clearly as He spoke to the Disciples, He spoke to me; "I did this for you. Peace be with you."

At 14 I did not know the possibilities ahead or understand what this meant. And like the disciples, I was startled and afraid. After the service my mother and I sat in the car as I went through multiple feelings, feelings of joy and amazement. Throughout my life I have not always been or done what I should, but one thing was always sure: Jesus is real, and he took my sins away so I might live for and with Him.

Two years ago, I lost my husband, a man whose faith never wavered. He loved Jesus more than anyone I know. He struggled with health issues but served God in full-time ministry for almost 30 years. When he passed, I wasn't sure how I was going to go on without him.

But again, Jesus reminded me that He was with me and to take His hand and HE would be with me -- that His peace would be with me. I don't know the Possibilities Ahead, for me, for the church, for our denomination, but one thing I know is that JESUS IS REAL.

He came to save us from our sinful ways, not to form a denomination or religion but to form a relationship with HIM. I pray that you too will have that relationship with Jesus-- that Jesus will show you His hands and feet and that you will know Him as your Savior.

Prayer: *Dear Lord, guide us to know you better to have a relationship with you. To look to you and no other. Lord to hear you say to us, "Peace be with you." Amen.*

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