

Study Hints for Thinking Further

International Bible Lessons

Luke 24:36-53

Sunday, April 7, 2013

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Five Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be answers to the discussion questions, but hints a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class.

Five Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. When Jesus appeared to His disciples, He said, "Peace be with you." Why did He say that and what did He mean?

Jesus wanted to quiet any fears His disciples might have had at His appearance (and they did have fears). They had heard Jesus bless people with peace many times, and they would recognize Him in the blessing of peace that He bestowed upon them (Mary recognized the voice of Jesus when He called her by name in the garden on resurrection Sunday, and then she looked up at Him). His very words and spirit of speaking would bring peace to their hearts and minds. Jesus did not give peace as the world gives, and His kingdom is not of this world. The world gives and removes peace based on external circumstances and spreading fears. Believers in Jesus can follow Him and not let their hearts be troubled by worldly events. Believers can have the peace of Jesus even when they endure persecution. Because Jesus has overcome or conquered the world, His Spirit within can give us courage in the world. When fears come or we feel we are being robbed of our peace, we can turn our spiritual eyes upon Jesus.

2. Why would it be important for Jesus to prove to them that He was not a ghost?

God forbids our communicating with ghosts or spirits (the dead), and Jesus needed to prove that they could talk to Him without disobeying God. Jesus had a real human resurrected glorified body, and He wanted them (and us) to know the truths about Him that fulfilled the Scriptures.

3. Why do you think God the Father and Jesus decided to leave the marks of His crucifixion on His hands and feet rather than remove these scars when they glorified His resurrected human body?

So He could prove that He really was Jesus and He really had been crucified in His human flesh. To remind everyone that He had died a painful and sacrificial death for the sins of the world, and that reminder inspires us to love and obey Him even more.

4. Why did Jesus ask His disciples for fish to eat but did not ask for anything to drink?

They were eating what they had, and by eating fish He could prove He was not a ghost. He had said He would not drink of the fruit of the vine again “until the kingdom of God comes” (Luke 22:18).

5. From these verses, what are all followers of Jesus supposed to tell others about Jesus, and why is this Good News?

God does what He says He will do, and there is life after death. We can repent of our sins and receive forgiveness for our sins if we believe in Jesus.

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