

DISCOURAGEMENT & DISSAPOINTMENT "The Unaware & Undeniable" Part 2

Luke 24:32-53 April 27, 2014

What Jesus Does

- ✓ Jesus Tells Them Peace
- √ Jesus Shows Them His <u>Presence</u>
- ✓ Jesus Gives Them the Proof
- ✓ Jesus Helps Completes the Picture
- ✓ Jesus Shares Their <u>Purpose</u>
- ✓ Jesus Communicates His Promise & His Power
- ✓ Jesus Blesses Them
- ✓ Jesus Parts From Them

What the Disciples Did – Their 180 Moment

- √ The Disciples <u>Worshiped</u> Him There
- ✓ They Disciples Were <u>Rejoicing</u>
- ✓ The Disciples Continually Worshiped in the Temple

What We Are To Do?... Our180° Moment

- "A Great <u>Commitment</u> to the Great <u>Commandment</u> and the Great <u>Commission</u> will Grow a Great <u>Church</u>." Rick Warren
- ✓ Love the Lord with all our Heart, Soul, Mind and Strength
- ✓ Love our Neighbors the Same Way We Love Ourselves
- ✓ Love the World by Going, Telling, Baptizing, & Discipling
- ✓ Lean on the Promise...He Always with Us To the End

OUR 180° MOMENT

- 1. Today, are you feeling defeated, discouraged, maybe full of doubt, or even disappointed or disillusioned? Then bring it to Jesus. He invites you to come and bring it all to Him. He is big enough to handle all of it and today there is no doubt He is the answer you are looking for!
- 2. Maybe today you are ready for the 180° turn in your life, there is no better time than now! You have become convinced He is the answer you have been looking for and you believe it's all true! It's as simple as ABC! Admit you are a sinner, Believe that Jesus is God's Son, Confess Him as Savior and Commit your life to Him as Lord for the rest of your life!!
- 3. Be willing to step over the line this morning and be obedient in what He is calling you to do. Maybe it is join this church family and honor Him by not attending but joining His family and being a part of bringing the good news to the world. Perhaps it is to refocus your life, for you have wandered away from the cross, and you need to come back home. Maybe it is to respond to God's call on your life to serve Him in full time Christian service. Whatever it is, do it!
- 4. Let us be compelled this week and so convinced and convicted of who He is and what He has done that we simply cannot help but tell someone else. Who in your world is waiting for you to share by your life and your words that Jesus has changed your forever and raised your life from the dead?
- 5. May we be certain that we are living our lives empowered by the Holy Spirit of God and not our own human efforts!
- 6. May we live expectantly for the return of our Savior and may our lives demonstrate that truth.
- 7. May we be found every Sunday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ with our Community Faith, Petal First Baptist Church. May we not count it a duty, but as an incredible privilege!

U-TURN: 180° THE TURNED AROUND LIFE

DISCOURAGEMENT & DISSAPOINTMENT

"The Unaware & Undeniable" Part 2 *Luke 24:32-53*

April 27, 2014 AM Service

We finish the incredible series that we started back in March that has led us on an incredible journey to meet lots of different people who encountered Christ and we see how their lives were forever changed, they did a literal 180° turn in their life and they were never the same again! And by the way, shouldn't that be the theme of our lives – our own 180° experience and also helping others to have that same 180° experience in their lives and shouldn't that be what our Church is about – introducing others to Jesus and sharing God's love with them so they too can have that 180° moment that will forever change their lives? Oh yes! We should love people like He did, touch people like He did, care about, minister to, bring hope to and oh so much more!

We stopped last week with Cleopas and his friends and they rushed back to Jerusalem to talk with the other disciples about what they had experienced and who they had seen! When they get there they find out that they too had seen Jesus and that He was alive and that it was a fact and appeared to peter (Sidenote for a quick second on Peter)

What Jesus Does

✓ Jesus Tells Them Peace Vs 36 He calms their concerns and fears That's the first thing He does! It's what He does in our own lives too! Isn't this just like Jesus, they were panicked in locked doors, believing they think it is all true, but still not so sure. Scared for their lives for what the Jews might do or the Romans might do with all the rumors floating around for remember it only been 3 days, and then all of sudden Jesus appears, doesn't knock, doesn't walk through a door, He simply appears! They are needless to say scared to death! He makes sure they that know it is Him! In John's account He says peace be still. He brings calm in the midst of the storm, in the midst of chaos. You know Jesus is still in the business of doing that same thing. When it seems that all heck will break loose, Jesus breaks in and says, hey, it's me, Don't be troubled, afraid anymore.

✓ **Jesus Shows Them His Presence** – showed them His scars Vs 36-38 He is visibly with them – guys it's me – Jesus, This wasn't some dream, hallucination or illusion nor was he some spirit or ghost, but the real living resurrection Jesus who had a resurrection body not some ghost or figment of your imagination, it's Jesus. Don't doubt anymore that I am alive, I am here.

✓ Jesus Gives Them the Proof Vs 39-43

Jesus Confirms to them that He is the Champion and the Conqueror of Death, Hell, and the Grave Come and touch me.

He lets them see that it is Him and that He is alive, even eating a piece of fish so that they could see that He was truly alive and not some spirit, or ghost as it were. He had come out of that tomb, overcoming death, the grave, and even hell itself taking the keys away! He controls it all. We don't have to fear death any longer! He leaves no doubt that He is the all-time, undisputed, undefeated champion of love the song says. Folks, Jesus Christ has won!

Even still it was hard for them to comprehend, it was too good to be true!

✓ Jesus Helps Completes the Picture – Vs 44-47

Jesus is so patient with us, for now the 2nd time He explains it again, He reminds them of all that He had been telling them all along of what had to happen. He reminds them of the Scripture that they knew, that they had heard, and maybe even as the Cleopas and his friend, believed them in their heads but it had not made its way to their hearts! new understanding of Scripture by way of the Law, Prophets, and Psalms or Writings. By the way, we cannot understand the Scriptures unless the Lord opens our eyes and our minds to see it! This is the gospel. This is why He came to seek and to save those who were lost and the only way that could happen is that He must die and then rise again! The light bulb comes on and they realize not only is it Jesus, but now they completely understood who He was, why He had come and what He was calling them to do.

"Jesus undoubtedly spends several hours with His followers, calming their fears, answering their questions, comforting their sorrow, forgiving their sins, solidifying their faith, and preparing them for kingdombuilding without His physical presence." Quote: Swindoll, Page 53 The cross was always a part of the plan – it was necessary for God's wrath to be justified and sins to be forgiven!

Jesus Shares Their Purpose Vs 47-4

They weren't supposed to keep all this knowledge to themselves, - no it's the gospel, and the gospel and it means good news and that good news has to be shared with the whole world!

Go to Acts 1:1-11 Let us be reminded this was not the great suggestion, the but the great commission, command that we are ALL called to go and tell. Not just the missionaries, not just the preachers, not just the staff members, not just the deacons or SS teachers, but we are called to go and tell what Jesus did for us! We are called to be witnesses – to give a testimony to what Jesus has done in your life. For the disciples it was tell that they had seen Jesus and all that He had said and done and how it had radically changed their lives – so are we! He brings it all together... His commission of them "modeled the kind of preaching His followers were to emulate. He demonstrated from Scriptures that the plan of God always had been to send His Son, who suffer on behalf of His people and conquer death on the third day. The call of God *always* had been to repent of sin, receive His forgiveness and to trust that His grace is sufficient to save. The city of Jerusalem had been the Lord's intended "light on a hill" & would finally become the starting point of world evangelism." Quote: Swindoll, Page 53 There is a great urgency of the task!

Yet how would this rag tag bunch ever impact the entire world?

✓ Jesus Communicates His Promise – His Power Vs 49

He would send the Holy Spirit We cannot do this on our own. This is so important. Now we can do some things alone, and in fact we can even build a church without Christ, but He will not bless it, It will not last, and it will be full of people who are not genuinely saved, only coming because they want to feel good. This is the secret for the power to do that which Christ has called us to do!

✓ Jesus Blesses Them

The last thing He does before He leaves and is still doing so as He ascends is to bless them. What greater thing can a person do for

someone else, much less for Jesus to bless you! Now this is not some bless your heart – this is approve, encourage, sanctify, and support – and that is what Jesus does and so much more with His words!

✓ Jesus Parts From Them Vs 50-51

The Clouds Cover Jesus until the Clouds will one day Crack Open to reveal Jesus wearing His Crown to Come and take us home. Jesus' time has ended on this earth, and perhaps they were sad, shocked, wanted Him to stay, and the angels answered that, don't worry guys, He told you He is coming back. Jesus goes back to the Father and oh what a reunion that must have been! Back to His rightful throne, wearing His rightful crown, and although He came as a baby, as a suffering servant, dying on a cross, He promises that He will one day return in a like manner, except this time He will come as a Conquering King, riding that white horse and God's final judgment and wrath will come. There will be no doubt this time for the whole world will know and see that the King has returned! It was the end of the beginning! One season had ended and now a new one was beginning. Not only did they have a friend on earth but no a friend in heaven! Can you imagine the reunion the day these disciples met Jesus in heaven?

Weirsbe Quote: "In heaven today, our Lord ministers as our High Priest (Heb 7:25) and our Advocate (1 John 2:1). As High Priest, He gives us the grace we need to face testing and temptation (Heb 4:14-16); and if we fail, as Advocate He forgives and restores us when we confess our sins (1 John 1:6-10). As the glorified Head of the church, Jesus Christ is equipping His people to live for Him and serve Him in this present world (Eph 4:7-16; Heb 13:20-21). Through the Word of God and prayer, He is ministering to us by His Spirit and making us more like Himself. Of course, He is also preparing in heaven a home for His people (John 14:1-6), and one day He will return and take us to be with Him forever."

What the Disciples Did – Their 180 Moment Vs 52-53

✓ The Disciples Worshiped Him There

Weirsbe Quote: "The last thing our Lord did was to bless His people, and the first thing they did was to worship Him! The two always go together, for as we truly worship Him He will share His blessings. He

- not only opened their lips to witness, but He also opened their lips to worship and praise Him!"
- ✓ The Disciples Were Rejoicing Why? Jesus had blessed them, He was returning home to His Father and all of heaven, and they would never be alone because He promised to send His presence through the Holy Spirit.
- ✓ The Disciples Worshiped Him in the Temple

They Continued to Celebrate as a Community of Faith in the House of God. This is huge and let us not forget this. They were obedient to the Lord's command. They went back to Jerusalem and waited. Waited on what, I'm not sure they exactly knew, but they waited. And while they were waiting, they were in the temple (church) (out in the open) praising God continually. They were worshiping the Lord together, in church. Folks, it should be the natural reaction of all believers who have met the risen Savior to want to be with the people of God, worshiping the Father continually. It is why I come on 1st Super Sunday Nights and Wednesday Nights, not because I have to, but because I get to come back one more time, have a time to worship with my brothers and sisters, hear the Word of God yet one more time. Let's be truthful, can we ever get enough of the Word of God? No way. And by the way, I don't believe they just had corporate worship, as we see in Acts, they were meeting in small groups, studying the Word, encouraging one another, praying for one another, we call it LifeGroups - where we do life together and study the Word of God together. You need to be a in a small group, and if you are not, you need to think long and hard about it and get in one!!

What We Are To Do?... Our 180° Moment

- "A Great Commitment to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission will Grow a Great Church." Rick Warren
- ✓ Love the Lord with all our Heart, Soul, Mind and Strength,
- ✓ Love our Neighbors the Same Way We Love Ourselves
- ✓ Love the World by Going, Telling, Baptizing, & Discipling
- ✓ Lean on the Promise He Always with Us To the Very End