

iWitness

Introduction:

The Bible is full of accounts of people who saw the resurrected Jesus. He spoke to them. He ate with them. They recognized him. The resurrected Jesus is an essential piece of God's Good News for the world.

It is easy for modern readers to think that it was simpler for the people in the first century to come to grips with a risen Jesus. This is not the case. It was just as difficult for a person in the first century as it is for a 21st century person to believe. This is why scripture gives us these accounts, so that the faith of Jesus' followers might become our faith.

When we look at the first witnesses, we see a mix of reactions, but ultimately a picture of what it means to believe and to know and to rest firmly in the promise that God raised his son to new life, and he will do the same for us. Then, we too, are to be witness to what we have come to believe. We are to tell of what we have seen with eyes of faith.

Read Your Bible

- 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
- Luke 24:36-53

Apply God's Word to Your Life:

1. What things are easy to believe? What is hard to believe?
2. What makes it hard to believe in the Resurrection? What makes it easy?
3. How do Jesus' followers in Luke react to his resurrection appearance?

4. What can we learn from these followers?
5. How many people does Paul recount seeing Jesus after his resurrection?
6. In what ways do we “see” Jesus in this world?
7. In verse 48 of Luke 24, Jesus calls us all to something. What does it mean to be a witness? Who are we to witness to and for what purpose?
8. How might you live out your calling to be a witness in your life?

Reflecting on the text:

1. What have you learned about God?
2. What have you learned about the world?
3. What have you learned about yourself?

Pray

Father in Heaven, it is with eyes of faith that we come to know you and your great love. Fill us with your spirit that we may see and know Jesus, the risen one. Send us out as witnesses to tell your story of repentance and forgiveness to every nation of the world. In Jesus' name. Amen.