

BIBLE STUDY FOR APRIL 12, 2020

The Resurrection of Our Lord

The resurrection of Jesus –

Enables us to cope with major change – Acts 10: 34-43 NRSV

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

- What change(s) are you facing right now that you find most difficult?
- What did God do to help Peter face major change?
- What is God doing right now to help you face major change?

Calls us to a new way of living – Colossians 3: 1-4 NRSV

“So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your^[a] life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.”

- What is the significance of the verb tense in the first eight words of this lesson?
- What are some ways in which you are already seeking things that are above?
- What specific changes do you need to make in your life in order to more fully and consistently seek things that are above?

Calms our fears and gives us joy – Matthew 28: 1-10 NRSV

“After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he^[a] lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead,^[b] and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

- What are you most afraid of right now?
- How can and/or does the message of Jesus’ resurrection calm your fears?
- How can and/or does the message of Jesus’ resurrection give you joy?
- What do the three instructions from the angel to the women say to you? “Do not be afraid. . . . Come, see the place where He lay. . . . Then go quickly and tell His disciples.”
- Who needs to hear the good news of Easter from you?