

100 days with Jesus

Group Study No: 20

Luke 24:44-49

Introduction

The concept of power, once so appealing, has acquired some difficult connotations today. The 'Black Lives Matter' movement points to power being used to suppress and exploit black people. The environmental movement continually reminds us of how technological and economic powers are coming to destroy our world. In more recent times, demagogues and dictators have risen to power and then later manipulated that power for evildoing.

Power can, however, also be used for loving and good purposes. Love, truth, beauty and peace can all be empowered. It is this sort of power that Jesus talks to his followers about.

Discussion

1. Have you ever been aware of the power of God at work in your life?

2. Jesus tends to use two words in our Christian walk with him. The first is 'COME'. Come follow me. But then, after a while, he says 'GO'. Go serve me. In this passage, Jesus is telling his followers that they are about to go. How do you imagine they felt?

3. Go around the group and share stories of people COMING to Jesus. Repeat the same exercise, but this time share stories of people GOING for Jesus.

4. Do you think it seems significant that Jesus' commission is being given to a group, and not just to individuals?

5. Read Acts 1:8. In this verse it underlines what Jesus said in Luke 24:44-49. When it comes to receiving the Holy Spirit, it seems to be a three-step process: -

- Pause
- Receive
- Go

6. Some of us like to 'Go' but aren't very good at first 'pausing' and 'receiving'. Others are great at 'pausing' and 'receiving', but never get round to 'going'. Which are you?

7. What difference did the Holy Spirit make in the lives of the first disciples?

8. What difference has the Holy Spirit made in your life?

It would be good to play a quiet worshipful piece of music and encourage the group to pause and receive the Holy Spirit.

Prayer

Lord Jesus,
Help me to stay and wait;
To hear the wind,
To be clothed,
To be empowered,
And then help me to go out.
Amen.