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Title: Transformed Disciples

Scripture: Selected passages from Luke 24, Acts 3 & 4

Once you've read the early chapters of Acts, and compared them to the closing chapters of any of the Gospels, you can't help but notice the radical change in the disciples.

1. Before the resurrection.
 - a) Peter's first encounter with Christ. (John 1:40-42)
 - Come and see - to lead people to believe in Jesus for eternal life. (Eph 2:8-9, John 6:47)
 - b) Jesus called Simon and Andrew to discipleship.
 - Come and follow Me. (Mark 1:16-18)
 - c) Peter the disciple - faithfulness and struggles. (Matt 14:28-33, Matt 16:21-23, John 18:10-11, Luke 22:54-60)
 - d) Proper response to sin in our lives. (Luke 22:61-62, John 21: 15-19, 1 John 1:9)
2. After the resurrection.
 - a) The empty tomb – struggling to understand. (Luke 24:1-12)
 - b) Meeting the risen Jesus! (Luke 24:28-43)
 - c) The disciples understand – Jesus' life has been a fulfillment of Scripture. (Luke 24:44-49)
3. Transformed!
 - a) Peter preaching. (Acts 3:11-21, Acts 4:12-20)
4. What happened during those 50 days to change the disciples?
 - a) Something happened that wiped away their fear of death! They were convinced proclaiming that they had no doubts, that Jesus had risen from the dead, proving that he was everything he claimed to be... The Son of God...The Messiah!
 - b) Jesus' disciples saw him physically alive multiple times. (1 John 1:1-2, 2 Peter 1:16)

Conclusion:

- Does this "Good News" motivate you like it did Jesus' disciples?
"For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." (Acts 4:20)
 - When Jesus chose His followers, He was looking for real, ordinary people.
 - He chose people who could be changed by His love (*be teachable*).
 - You may wonder what Jesus sees in you... how can he use me? I don't have much to give.
 - We have been given the same mandate, to make disciples, to be His ambassadors (*His representatives*).
 - Do you feel adequate to do this? Do you think the disciples did? ... Go into all the world?
5. We have a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 1: 3-4)