

**Good Shepherd Community Church - Easter Sermon Series – How
Jesus meets us *after* the resurrection**

**The Disciples ... Meeting Jesus When We are Living in Fear
April 17, 2010, by Phil Eby**

Question of the day: What are you afraid of?

- Fear (anxiety) is a strange thing; it causes us to think, and often to act, irrationally.
- After the crucifixion, the disciples were locked in a house, trying to get a handle on everything that had transpired, and on what they would do now.

Emotions the disciples must have been dealing with:

1. Fear.
 2. Confusion.
 3. Sadness/grief.
 4. Disappointment with themselves.
- Overall they were in a state of anxiety.

Definition of **Anxiety** - distress or uneasiness of mind caused by fear of danger or misfortune.

THEN JESUS APPEARS!

Luke 24:36-49 (NIV)

³⁶While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have." ⁴⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate it in their presence. ⁴⁴He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

- Jesus' appearance created mixed emotions for the disciples.

How did Jesus "meet them in their fear?"

1. He let them know he was still their friend. "Peace be with you."
2. He showed them where they missed it. He ALWAYS had everything under control.
3. He sent them out again.
John 20:21-23 (NIV) ²¹Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²²And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

The remedy to fear in your life is to seek the guidance of Jesus through the Holy Spirit for every situation you encounter.

- God is always on your side!
- God has everything under control!
- God has a plan for you to deal with the situation you're facing!

What are you afraid of?