



# Daily Reflections

**April 25, 2019**

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## Scripture

### **Luke 24: 35-48**

The disciples of Jesus recounted what had taken place along the way, and how they had come to recognize him in the breaking of bread.

While they were still speaking about this, he stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you."

But they were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost.

Then he said to them, "Why are you troubled?

And why do questions arise in your hearts?

Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself.

Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have."

And as he said this,

he showed them his hands and his feet.

While they were still incredulous for joy and were amazed,

he asked them, "Have you anything here to eat?"

They gave him a piece of baked fish;

he took it and ate it in front of them.

He said to them,

"These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled."

Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.  
And he said to them,  
"Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer  
and rise from the dead on the third day  
and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins,  
would be preached in his name  
to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.  
You are witnesses of these things."

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

There is a common theme that runs through all of the Easter appearance accounts in the four Gospels. When Jesus first appears to the unsuspecting disciples they fail to recognize Him. Why?

1. Jesus has been glorified. His appearance has been radically transformed.
2. They do not yet have Easter faith.

Jesus speaks a word or performs a gesture, and immediately, their eyes are opened in faith and they become His witnesses.

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## **Food for your Journey**

Find yourself taking life for granted? Find yourself not seeing the extra in the ordinary? Listen to these words written 1400 years ago by Gregory the Great: "Those things which are full of marvels for an investigation deeper than we can reach have become cheap from custom in the eyes of men. " He then gives some examples:

"... if a dead man is raised to life, all men spring up in astonishment. Yet every day one that had no being is born, and no man wonders, though it is plain to all, without doubt, that it is a greater thing for that to be created which was without being than for that which had being to be restored. Because the dry rod of Aaron budded, all men were in astonishment; every day a tree is produced from the dry earth, ... and no man wonders ... Five thousand men were filled with five loaves; ... every day the grains of seed that are sown are multiplied in a fullness of ears, and no man wonders. All ... wondered to see water once turned into wine. Every day the earth's moisture, being drawn into the root of the vine, is turned by the grape into wine, and

no man wonders. Full of wonder then are all the things which men never think to wonder at, because ... they are by habit become dull to the consideration of them. "

--St. Gregory the Great,

Morals on the Book of Job

(Oxford: John Henry Parker, 184\*, 32424 (vi:18),

as quoted in Ann and Barry Ulanov,

The Healing Imagination: The Meeting of Psyche and Soul

(New York: Paulist Press, 1991), 23-24.

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear God, Even though the disciples had spent three years with Jesus while He carried out His public ministry, their faith was wrecked by the scandal of the cross. But at Easter they would turn around and become true believers and witnesses. When I have doubts or my faith is shaken by what I see and hear, may I receive the Grace I need to dig in and never give up. Amen