



[TOP](#)

Daily Devotional - Thursday, April 10, 2025 - Back to School

APRIL 10TH 2025 BY DEE LOFLIN

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What did the disciples think would happen next after Jesus proved to them that He was alive following the resurrection? We get a clue from the question they asked in verse 6 of today's reading: "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" They thought it was the end of the story. Or, perhaps more accurately, the beginning of a new one. What I don't think they expected was that they would have to go back to school.

Verse 3 says Jesus "appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God." His aim was twofold. First, He would provide His followers with irrefutable proof of His bodily resurrection (v. 3). Jesus backed this claim by being with them in the flesh and eating with them (v. 4). Second, He would finish instructing them and prepare them for their next stage of ministry. For forty days, Jesus taught them about the kingdom of God (see Matt. 4:23). Yet despite all this instruction, His apostles still had questions. Specifically, they wanted to know when the kingdom would be restored to

Israel (v. 6).

In his reply, Jesus pointed out that the timing was not their concern. The times and dates are things that “the Father has set by his own authority” (v. 7). The immediate task that lay before them was to wait for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit who would empower them to bear witness “in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (v. 8). Jesus had spoken to them about the ministry of the Spirit. He had called Him “another advocate” who would “help you and be with you forever” (John 14:16). He is also called “the Spirit of Christ” (Rom. 8:9; 1 Peter 1:11).

Go Deeper

How does Jesus describe the ministry of the Holy Spirit in Acts 1:8? How does the Spirit help us?

Pray with Us

It’s amazing to realize that Your resurrection, Lord, is only the beginning of our new life with You. Thank You for giving us Your victory on the cross and inviting us to Yourself—to receive a gift of life.

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