

“Prepared Therefore Nimble”

By Mrs. Sojourner



These days I see so many people, who want to go however the Spirit moves them and so they run their lives without any set structure or discipline.

Understand, I agree that we need to be nimble and willing to obey the Holy Spirit’s bidding whenever he calls no matter how strange it may seem to us. Our ability to be nimble, however, is strengthened by our preparedness. We must be prepared to serve our Lord.

How do we prepare to serve the God of the Universe? Good question. Let us look at Esther. She spent a year in beauty treatments and then another two or three years in a holding pattern waiting for her night with King Xerxes. She had to keep herself ready during this time. Esther was not just lazing around in the lap of luxury. Think of it, she had to get herself—body, mind, and spirit—ready to capture the King’s heart.

Some of you may, at this point, say that we do not save

Notes:

[a]

or heal people, God does. True. People come to Christ because the Holy Spirit draws them, but we, like good soldiers and like Esther, need to have ourselves prepared and conditioned to hear the Holy Spirit’s voice when he leads us to do or say something that will bring people closer to God. Two activities in particular are a good start for being conditioned for the Lord’s service: Bible study and diligent prayer.

By studying the scriptures, we learn who we are in Christ, and who our Heavenly Father is. Prayer makes us attuned to the Holy Spirit’s voice. Both of these activities are what prepare us to be nimble. The structure of disciplined Bible study and prayer prepare us so at a moment’s notice we can snap to attention and go about our Father’s business.

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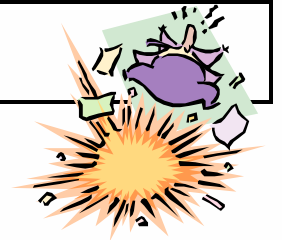
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...with The Sojourner

“Power Resurrected!” (Teaching Sketch)

Luke 24:13-29 (NIV)



The Apostle Luke was a man of medicine, a scientist. Luke was a man who needed solid evidence before he would put his name to a report.

We will now peel to a layer of this onion beyond the obvious story to the hidden story, the secrets of The Kingdom. It is the glory of kings to search out a matter.^[1]

Luke in his Gospel wrote in Chapter 24 an interesting scene of Jesus after his resurrection. Jesus was on the road to Emmaus (Warm Springs) walking with two (number of adequate witness) of his followers, one of whom was named Cleopas (renowned father). Jesus, it was understood, from his own lips said that he only did what he saw his Father doing.^[2] It is interesting then that he should be found walking with a man named “Renowned Father” while the name of the other believer is not mentioned. Since all scripture is inspired, it would seem that the second nameless believer was only present to fulfill adequate witness.^[3]

Believers’ Conversation

The conversation of the two,

Notes:

[1]

Proverbs
25:2

[2]

John
5:19

[3]

Deut.
19:15;
John
8:17-18

[4]

Ex.
12:1-51

prior to Jesus joining them, had centered on the events of the recent Passover^[4] involving the great entry, trial, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.

They were so surprised when Jesus asked, “What things?” They then rehearsed to him the recent events that had the whole region talking. What these Believers were doing is exactly what all Believers are to do. Tell the story. Telling the story encourages other Believers, or each other, and builds up the Believer’s faith. These Believers on the road that day were actually telling Jesus the Gospel, the Good News!

Beyond that, when the story is told to the person who does not believe, they are given hope for themselves to place their trust in Jesus the Christ and be saved, healed, delivered, and preserved which is what the original Greek word used, which was translated “saved” (sozo), meant and means.

Jesus Chides Them

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Please note: This is a teaching sketch only and not the complete teaching.

Scripture: Luke 24:13-29 (NIV)

(NIV is employed here to allow English speakers around the world equal understanding of the words used)

¹³Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus,^[a] about seven miles^[b] from Jerusalem. ¹⁴They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶but they were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸One of them, named Cleopas,^[c] asked him, "Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem^[d] and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

Notes:

[a] Warm Springs

[b] number of perfection, completion

[c] renowned father

[d] place of peace

[e] separated

[f] Who

¹⁹"What things?" he asked. ^[a]"About Jesus of Nazareth,"^[e] they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel.^[f] And what is more, it is the third day^[g] since all this took place. ²²In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women

Just so you'll know:

Our service is informal. We look to the Holy Spirit of God to guide us corporately and individually.

Our service usually follows this general pattern:

- **Informal sharing** of what we have seen the Lord do in, through, and around us since we last met.
 - Testimonies are often a part of the conversation.
- **Opening Prayer**
- **Praise & Worship** (Offerings are placed in the basket at this time)
- **Words of Prophecy or Knowledge** if they have been given during "Praise & Worship" (other times as the Spirit moves).
- **The Pastoral Message**
- **Prayer Requests**
 - Ministry to those present & intercession.
- **The Blessing**

"Power Resurrected!" (Teaching Sketch)

Luke 24:13-29 (NIV)



Scripture Continued:

had said, but him they did not see."

²⁵He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Did not the Christ^[h] have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" ²⁷And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

²⁸As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them

prevails with God

[g] Gen. 1:9-13; life appeared at the creation

[h] The anointed

believe in John 17:20-26. Many have been on the road of life with him but have not been able to understand or discern that Jesus said that he was in us and that we were his body. When Jesus was in only one body he did mighty things in that one body. He is now in many bodies and is willing to work through those bodies to show his glory.

We now live in a time when we need to heed the words of prophets and recognize that these are the days of power being thrust back into all believers, who will accept God flowing through them in power to demonstrate the truth of God's word to a lost, floundering, and dying world. These days are the days foretold long ago. We must not be slow of heart in this hour for we have more scripture to understand and function in than the first century church. Back then, 2000 years ago, people were come against for preaching the resurrection, just as today people are come against for preaching that power has been resurrected in the Body of Christ for all who are not slow of heart to function in the word and receive it. The Holy Spirit is revealing, more and more each day, that we can walk in power to show that God's Kingdom is in us. Allow him to work through you, daily!

Jesus noticed the men had downcast faces as they stood still there on the road relating their story. It was at this point that he chided them for how slow they were in their hearts to believe the prophets who had foretold the very events which of necessity had taken place. How like many Believers today, who have heard the story, accepted Jesus, and become frozen in place, paralyzed, powerless, and downcast because they have not spent life-filled time on the road with the Master. They "bought the fire insurance," but not the "life assurance" in the here and now offered by Jesus in his passing the resurrection power to those who