**Encouragement for Fearful Times / Luke 24**

Context: THE STORY
Jesus was crucified, some claim Jesus is alive?
thinking they are going to be killed next. Locked up in room
right after the road to Emmaus, risen Jesus disappears
men return to Jerusalem, then Jesus appears
Slalom, disciples scream
looked at Jesus, too good to be true, didn't believe
broiled fish is given to Jesus.

THEN HE OPEN THEIR MINDS
Matt stevens blind basketball player.
designated free throw shooter
brother taps the rim.
shooter is his new name at school
Jesus gives us taps, to keep us oriented.
Four TAPS

**THE RISEN JESUS GIVES US A...**

**1. Peace to Live With***While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”37 They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. 38 He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? 39 Look 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.”40 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. 41 And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate it in their presence.” Luke 24:36-43*

It will be ok.
lonely? guilty? frightened about news? Health issues?
"Peace be with you."
how?
1.accept God's forgiveness, the bill has been paid
2. focus that God is always with you, always
3. Be Still, hurry is the enemy of prayer
Worry is the opposite of peace
didn't work with disciples, might not work with you
**Physicality of the fish means the physical world is not evil**Plato, influential. Taught physical world is bad. No sin is.
You had to not enjoy the physical, focus internal, spiritual.
monks, withdrawing from earth, focusing on spiritual
God likes the world, created it good. Sunset, baby
Heaven is very physical, not just spiritual. Jesus is physical now.
the resurrection is real. Life is not over.

**2.  Paradigm  to See Through***44 He 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.”45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. Luke 24:44-45*Disciples worldview is that the messiah would kick out Romans
But the OT actually showed the Messiah must first suffer
Passover meal - Moses exodus

Isaiah 53:5,11
Psalm 22
The best is yet to come.

Trust in God, our hope is in him
we don't need to understand the why, how, when…just keep your hope in Jesus.
victor frankel concentration camp
To illustrate his point Frankl details for us his theory on the record high death rate in Auschwitz during Christmas 1944 to New Years 1945: that prisoners died because they had expected to be home before Christmas. When they realized this was not to be they completely lost hope in life beyond the concentration camp
whoever was alive had reasons for had reasons for hope.

**3.   Purpose to live for***He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”
Luke 24:46-48*

our purpose is to glorify God take as many people as possible to heaven with us.
Give God GLORY GGG
This is what we are living for….
A witness… in the department of the DMV

**4.  Power to live on**
*“I 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.”
Luke 24:49*Some suggest to relieve stress, talk to your pet - at times it works
God is better, and more powerful

When Hudson Taylor was sailing to China to begin his missionary work, his ship was in great danger. The wind had died, and the current was carrying them toward sunken reefs which were close to islands inhabited by cannibals—so close they could see them building fires on the shore. Everything they tried was to no avail. In his journal Taylor recorded what happened next: The Captain said to me, “Well, we have done everything that can be done.” A thought occurred to me, and I replied, “No, there is one thing we have not done yet.” “What is that?” he queried. “Four of us on board are Christians. Let us each retire to his own cabin, and in agreed prayer ask the Lord to give us immediately a breeze.”

Taylor prayed briefly and then, certain that the answer was coming, went up on the deck and asked the first officer to let down the sails. “What would be the good of that?” he answered roughly. I told him we had been asking a wind from God; that it was coming immediately. Within minutes the wind did began to blow, and it carried them safely past the reefs. Taylor wrote: Thus God encouraged me ere landing on China’s shores to bring every variety of need to Him in prayer, and to expect that He would honour the name of the Lord Jesus and give the help each emergency required.

600 year old seed found on indian grave
Scientist planted it and it sprouted and grew!

Methuselah [sprouted back in 2005](http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/051122-old-plant-seed-food/), when agriculture expert Solowey germinated his antique seed. It had been pulled from the remains of [Masada](https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Archaeology/Masada1.html),

**A dormant seed has the potential for life**