



# CEF<sup>®</sup> ASIA PACIFIC FAMILY NEWS

4th Floor Back to the Bible Bldg., 135 West Avenue, Quezon City 1105 Philippines  
Email: [joysidra.cef@gmail.com](mailto:joysidra.cef@gmail.com) Website: [www.cef-asiapacific.com](http://www.cef-asiapacific.com)

2nd Quarter

April - June 2011



## JESUS' RESURRECTION: WHAT ARE WE TO DO?

When we ask, "What is the first image that comes to mind when you hear the word 'Easter'?", probably, the answer will be "Easter Eggs" or "Easter bunnies". Understandably, for these are part of the Easter culture. But as disciples of Jesus Christ, we ought to know what His resurrection means and how we can best live up to the true spirit of this great Christian festival. I found the clue in the Gospel of John 20:19-22.

*"On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'*

### WE ARE TO ENJOY HIS PEACE

Here, we see the disciples of Jesus locked in a room for fear of the Jews who might arrest and kill them. In short, the disciples were in panic. They simply didn't know what to do after Jesus, their master, died in a terrible death on the cross. Obviously, great fear and worry were upon them.

Then Jesus suddenly appeared in the room! To the astonished yet overjoyed disciples, His greeting words were, "Peace be with you!" Indeed, we need His peace. Before we are to preach the Gospel of peace, we must have this peace in us and among us. We must understand that we do not and cannot make up this peace for ourselves. It is only given by Jesus Himself. Are you enjoying His peace today? Do you have His 'Shalom' in you? This peace is not affected by circumstances that surround us. Rather, it passes all understanding! So learn to enjoy His peace regardless of your life's situation.

### WE ARE TO ACCOMPLISH HIS MISSION

The next words Jesus spoke were, "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." Of course, Jesus sent out His disciples even before he was resurrected. They came back with a report of victory over the evil spirits. But it was merely a 'foretaste' of the real mission which would follow His resurrection. Now that Jesus had risen from the dead, the disciples are given a green light to "Go!" This is the real one!

And so, this question will naturally arise. "What kind of mission are we to accomplish?" Or "For what are we sent out for?". The answer lies in the expression Jesus used. He mentioned the fact that "the Father is sending Him." Needless to say, the Father means God the Father. Our God has sent Jesus to save the world, not to judge it. Just as Jesus came to earth with the mission to save people from their sins, we, as ambassadors of Christ, are to go to them with the mission to share the message of salvation.

By studying Scripture, we can safely conclude that Jesus was sent for boys and girls, too. If that is true, there must be a group of His disciples willing to be sent with the mission specifically for the children. Yes, we are that group of disciples! We in CEF!

### WE ARE TO RECEIVE HIS HOLY SPIRIT

Jesus added, "Receive the Holy Spirit". Some people get confused with these words of Jesus. Let me ask, "Did the Holy Spirit come down to the disciples on the spot after Jesus said it", or "Did the Holy Spirit come down on them later?". We know the answer. The Holy Spirit came down on them 40 days after Jesus' ascension. This scene is a kind of illustration on the importance of receiving the Holy Spirit.

With this answer, comes another question, "Why is it so important to receive the Holy Spirit before we are to be sent out?" There are several reasons, but in terms of the mission we are talking about here, let me emphasize this point: "To enjoy true fruit of our evangelistic effort, we must depend on the Holy Spirit. He must be the main guide as you reach lost boys and girls."

Let me put it this way: You do not know how to plan your CEF ministry. You do not know where to go. You do not know whom to contact. You do not know how to pray for them. You do not know how to raise the needed funds. You do not know... the list goes on and on. If you don't depend on the Holy Spirit, you will soon be overwhelmed by the task which is humanly impossible to accomplish. Remember, only the Holy Spirit can guide us to have true victory in our mission! I pray that each and every CEF worker in the AP region is filled with the Holy Spirit to accomplish the mission with His peace in our hearts.

**Rev. David Ra**  
Asia Pacific Regional Director