

BREATH ON US, HOLY SPIRIT

In Mark 16:1-8 we often talk about doubting Thomas, but in this story Jesus did something to all the disciples that they were not expecting. They should have, because he promised that he would give them this gift. How he gave it was very significant. At first, He said, "Peace be with you; as the father has sent me, so I send you", then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

It is the Holy Spirit that was God's breath of life in Adam. This is the same Holy Spirit that raised Jesus to life. Jesus imparted the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Now the life of God was in them; and then He said, "So I send you."

They did go out to share the Good News as Jesus did and those who believed received the Holy Spirit's life within them. Being followers of Jesus means that we, too, receive his life-giving Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the evidence within us that makes the Good News so very, very real.

(Collect) Breath on us your abundant life.

But if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another.

Have you ever told an amazing fact to someone and they have said to you, I don't believe it, prove it to me? Acts 4, 1 John 1 and Mark 16, all talk about being witnesses of Christ's resurrection. Have you ever realised that we are God's living evidence of Christ's resurrection?

Some of us are great at speaking to others about Jesus, but some of us are at a loss for words. In God's world, neither are as important as having God's nature within us, affecting everything we do. As we seek Him daily, His presence is over our lives, and, believe me, the world notices. One cicada singing is a tiny voice, but a whole forest of cicadas makes all the trees throb. Just think, when we all come together to worship God, filled with the life of the Holy Spirit, how awesome is His presence then. When someone who doesn't know the Lord walks into that environment, then their lives can be turned upside down.