

BUT YOU WILL RECEIVE POWER WHEN THE HOLY
-----> SPIRIT HAS COME UPON YOU, AND <-----



YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES
IN JERUSALEM AND IN ALL JUDEA AND SAMARIA,
<----- AND TO THE END OF THE EARTH. ----->

ACTS 1:8



THE PARISH OF CHALFONT ST PETER
Encounter God, Encourage Others, Engage our World
Charity Number: 1146043



www.CSP-Parish.org.uk

FOUNDATION CAFÉ SERVICE

28th May 2017

A Brand New Start

Jesus' Ascension



**CHALFONT
ST. PETER
PARISH CHURCHES**

KNOW WHAT:

- This week we are getting ready to celebrate the church's birthday by sharing the story of Jesus' ascension.
- After Jesus' resurrection he appeared to his friends several times over 40 days. He told them to stay around Jerusalem waiting for the Holy Spirit to come just as he had promised.
- After Jesus said this he went back into heaven through the clouds. The disciples stood around looking at the sky waiting to see what would happen. Two angels appeared to them and said that they should not wait, but that one day Jesus would come back.
- The disciples returned to Jerusalem to wait for the Holy Spirit and to get ready to do what God asked them to do.

SO WHAT:

- Jesus is coming back one day but we don't know when. In the meantime we should do the things God calls us to.
- We can receive the Holy Spirit just like the disciples did.

NOW WHAT:

- Let us ask God for his Holy Spirit to live in us.
- Let us ask God what he wants us to do and think of how we can do those things.

LUKE'S LETTERS:

Have you ever been in two minds about something? It's hard to know which way to go or how to focus. It can be challenging to see the way forward.

The same is true of the Christian faith. There is a balance to be found between having a mind on the world and a mind on God. Too often Christians are either overly spiritual about things, or else they are too busy to remember why they do what they do and forget about God.

The disciples make both mistakes in this story. They are so set on what they have been told about the Messiah and the return of Israel's kingdom, that as Jesus leaves, they forget the amazing things they have seen and want a political revolution. Soon after Jesus replies to them, they are then so fixated on looking for him in the sky, they forget what he told them to get on with doing.

Being a Christian isn't about making everything spiritual and 'other-worldly.' It's also not about being a 'good person' and forgetting God. Instead, it is about finding our place in God's world, living with him and listening to him in our day to day lives.