

*From the Inside Out*  
*Luke 24:44-53*

Jesus gave a startling order to His disciples just before His ascension as He stood before them 100% alive. These men knew the Scriptures from \_\_\_\_\_, studied it in \_\_\_\_\_ school where they \_\_\_\_\_, interpreted, and applied Scripture to daily life. Their whole \_\_\_\_\_ encouraged continued learning and practice of their faith. But Jesus had to open “their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.” Strange that grown men, thoroughly immersed in Scripture from childhood on, were unable to grasp its \_\_\_\_\_.

Then He gave this command: “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.” The power to take the message to the world is the \_\_\_\_\_.

So, men who knew the Scriptures from childhood, lived with Jesus constantly for 3 years, and had seen and handled the risen Christ were still \_\_\_\_\_ to be His \_\_\_\_\_ until the Spirit of Christ was fully indwelling them.

The Bible in the hands of people who are not living in close communion with the indwelling Spirit isn't helpful. It's \_\_\_\_\_. It produces crusades and inquisitions and justifies \_\_\_\_\_.

Paul was warning about this phenomenon in **2 Cor. 3:6** “He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant--not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter \_\_\_\_\_, but the Spirit \_\_\_\_\_.”

The consistent complaint about Christians is that we are \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

Even Paul wrote in Phil. 3 that above all, “I want to \_\_\_\_\_.” He wasn't talking about salvation, but \_\_\_\_\_. Not books. Not recipes. Not looking through the bakery window and imagining the savoriness. He wanted to know God from the \_\_\_\_\_.

May we all pursue the invitation found in **Psalm 34:8**: \_\_\_\_\_ that the LORD is good.