

APRIL 24, 2016

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 14:21–27

PSALM 145:8–9, 10–11, 12–13

REVELATION 21:1–5A

JOHN 13:31–33A, 34–35

REFLECTION

The pieces of the puzzle are now coming together for us. God has revealed his full plan for our understanding. The first part focused on Christ crucified and rising from the dead. The second is the call for all witnesses to go forth with the message into the entire world. This week, write a post-it note that says, “You are clothed with power from on high,” and put it on your mirror or in the place where you get dressed. Each morning as you get ready for the day, recall those words as you consider how you will preach repentance and the forgiveness of sins through your words and actions.

ACTION

This week, begin each day with a brief prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to inspire your living. Think about what it will mean for you to keep Christ’s Word throughout the day. If you have particular situations that challenge your commitment to Christian life and discipleship, be especially conscious of these circumstances as you pray and ponder your choices of words, actions, or attitudes. At the end of the day, reflect upon the ways in which you did or did not act as Christ teaches. How was the Holy Spirit an Advocate for you by providing what you need to learn and to live as a disciple of Jesus Christ?

JOURNALING QUESTIONS

- When have you experienced discord or disagreement in the past week? What happened?
- When have you experienced peace in the last week? What happened?