HE SAID, “COME SPEND SOME TIME WITH ME.”

JOIN ME FOR DINNER

One night, when I was particularly feeling my grief and need for compassion, I thought how good it would be to spend time with Jesus, as though I was close to Him when He was living among us on the earth. His love for me became more real than ever.

If you’re hurting in some way, you might like to join me in this place close to Jesus. Put yourself in this story.

As I wrote this, I considered how it would have been if Jesus were to invite us for dinner so that He could personally tell us what He was all about. If we were to use our imagination, we might capture how very special such an invitation might be.

What makes me appreciate this so much is because I know this dinner invitation comes from Jesus, the compassionate Person with the radical teachings, it’s a pretty special opportunity. This will be an evening to look forward to.

As we sit down to the table and start eating and drinking, Jesus speaks these words: *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”* (Matthew 11:28-30)

Right away I for one think to myself, “He understands me!” Continuing on, He tells us how He knows about our hard times and how we need peace. He offers release from our anxieties—our pain of not having our voices heard, our sorrow about not having the freedom to create a better life for ourselves.

Our host tells us that following Him and His ways reveals the true meaning of God’s law. Following His example of unconditional love for all people, no matter who they are, where they live, or how they worship will help create a better world. The world will be a more peaceful place, with acceptance of each others’ differences.

Jesus shows how following Him and treating others with a loving spirit will help us be an example for the rest of the world to follow. Rohingya can show the world what it means to be resilient and never to abandon their faith tradition. They can show how important it is to cling to their God and never to abandon Him and His teachings.

Although the world will need time to hear the message and respond, Jesus’ Way offers us hope for freedom from the oppression. Following Him helps us have a more meaningful life. Jesus speaks with humility and as He talks, His love for us becomes obvious.

As we finish the meal, we savor the time we have left together. We discover the blessings and joy of being with Jesus. Our journey as followers of Christ has begun. Little by little, we will come to love others in the way He has shown us to love.