

In the pre-convention devotion, I mentioned Shakespeare so it seemed fitting to quote him again with "parting is such sweet sorrow." Coming down from the high of praising God in the midst of so many old and new friends, listening to the inspirational stories and messages, and basking in the fellowship of thousands of believers makes us want to linger a bit longer even if we have loved ones awaiting us at home.

Can you imagine what the disciples felt after sitting at the feet of Jesus Himself and then having to say good bye after all they witnessed. In Luke 24:44-53, Jesus gives them His parting words which we can use to encourage us as we depart from one another.

What purpose did we meet? Luke 24:44-47

What are we to do now? v.47~49 (Since we have already been clothed with the Holy Spirit through our baptism, we need not stay in the city any longer.)

Once Jesus ascended above all, what did the disciples do? V. 52-53.

Using this as an example for us, we can keep worshipping him as we return to our Jerusalems, wherever that may be, with great joy and continually meet in our churches blessing God and extoling Jesus' name above all! Go back to your homes and share all that God has done and keep in his Word.

Reflect on your days together in New Mexico and recall some of the highlights you can share with those at home, the funny stories, the tearful moments, the inspirational words, and distribute the wealth that you have learned about Jesus' name above all because as we say in the Lord's prayer "hallowed be thy name."

Lord, we continue to praise and glorify Your name even when we may be sad to depart this place. Enrich our witness as we return home so others may hear of Your wondrous works and Your gracious salvation. Encourage us and keep us safe as we are absent one from another, in Your precious name. Amen.