

# He Is Risen!

Luke 24:1-12

April 5, 2026



## DAY 1: WHEN LIFE DOESN'T MAKE SENSE

**READING: LUKE 24:1-12**

The women at the tomb were "perplexed"—literally "without a way" to understand what they were seeing. Sometimes God's work in our lives leaves us disoriented and confused. The very thing we expected isn't there anymore. Like these faithful women, we can find ourselves standing in moments where our understanding fails us.

Yet notice: their confusion preceded their greatest discovery. The empty tomb seemed impossible, but it was the doorway to hope. When life stops making sense, resist the urge to retreat into old explanations. Instead, lean into the mystery. God may be doing something far greater than you imagined.

**Reflection:** What situation in your life feels "without a way" right now? Can you trust that God might be preparing you for a resurrection moment?

## DAY 2: THE JUSTICE AND LOVE OF GOD

**READING: 1 PETER 2:24-25; ISAIAH 53:4-6**

We often struggle to hold together God's justice and His love. How can a loving God require payment for sin? Yet the cross reveals both attributes perfectly united. God's justice demands that sin be addressed; His love provides the solution through Jesus.

Peter reminds us that Jesus "bore our sins in his body on the tree." This wasn't divine child abuse—it was divine rescue. The Father didn't punish an innocent bystander; He entered our story as Jesus and absorbed the consequences Himself. Justice satisfied. Love demonstrated. We were "straying like sheep," but now we've returned to our Shepherd.

This is the gospel: God's love doesn't ignore justice; it fulfills it. And in doing so, He offers us what we could never earn—forgiveness, healing, and transformation.

**Reflection:** How does understanding both God's justice and love deepen your appreciation for the cross?

## DAY 3: DEATH HAS BEEN DEFEATED

**READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:50-58**

"Death is swallowed up in victory." These aren't empty words—they're the declaration of a new reality inaugurated by the empty tomb. When Jesus walked out of that grave, He didn't just survive death; He conquered it. The resurrection wasn't resuscitation; it was transformation.

This changes everything about how we face mortality, grief, and loss. Death no longer has the final word over your story. The sting has been removed. The victory has been won. Because Jesus lives, we too shall live.

This isn't pie-in-the-sky hope; it's anchored in historical fact. The tomb is empty. The witnesses were willing to die for this truth. No one dies for a known lie. Live today from a place of victory, not fear.

**Reflection:** How would your daily anxieties change if you truly believed death has been defeated?

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## DAY 4: MADE NEW, NOT JUST BETTER

**READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-21**

Jesus didn't die to make you a better version of yourself. He died to make you completely new. There's a profound difference. Self-improvement says, "Try harder." The gospel says, "Surrender and be transformed."

Paul declares, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." This isn't about behavior modification—it's about spiritual regeneration. You're not just forgiven; you're fundamentally changed.

One man at VPC testified, "I'm no longer the same person. I don't even see that broken person I once was." This is the power of resurrection life working in us. Daily surrender to Jesus allows His transforming work to continue. You don't have to clean yourself up first. Come as you are and let Him make you new.

**Reflection:** Are you trying to improve yourself, or are you surrendering to be made new?

## DAY 5: LIVING WITH HOPE AND POWER

**READING: ROMANS 8:31-39**

Because of the resurrection, you now live with hope and power. Not wishful thinking, but confident assurance rooted in Christ's victory. Paul asks the defining question: "If God is for us, who can be against us?" The One who didn't spare His own Son will graciously give us all things.

Nothing—not death, not life, not angels, not rulers, not present troubles, not future fears—can separate you from God's love in Christ Jesus. This is resurrection power applied to your daily life. You're not alone. You're not abandoned. You're not defined by your past.

The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is available to you today. Not to make life easy, but to make you resilient. Not to remove all suffering, but to fill you with hope that cannot be extinguished.

**Reflection:** What would change if you truly believed that nothing can separate you from God's love? How can you live in resurrection power today?

## MOVING FORWARD

The empty tomb isn't just a historical fact to believe—it's an invitation to experience resurrection life now. Jesus is knocking on the door of your life. Will you let Him in? Will you surrender to the One who conquered sin and death for you?

If you've never taken that step, pray this simple prayer: "Jesus, by faith I trust in you and what you did for me on the cross. I confess that you rose from the dead to give me life."

This is just the beginning. Find a church, maybe even a Vitalpoint site if one is close to you. Explore your questions. Let the truth of the empty tomb transform everything.

**He is risen. He is risen indeed.**