



Risen!

Have you ever been surprised in a way that changed the direction of your life? That's what the 1st century followers of Jesus experienced when their crucified Messiah decided to pay them a visit 3 days later.

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teachingnotes

Jesus is God's plan to rescue fallen man

Preparing to Anoint the Dead Body

Luke 23:54-56 (NIV) It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin. The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it. Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.

The **Sabbath** is Friday sundown until Saturday sundown. The women had to prepare these spices and perfumes before sundown of that day. These women were expecting to put these spices & perfumes on Jesus' dead body; to touch Him one last time before closing the tomb and allowing His corpse to decompose for 1 year (before moving his bones into a bone box called an ossuary).

And so, early the next morning they began the journey to the tomb.

Unexpected Experience at the Tomb

Luke 24:1-8 (NIV) On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " Then they remembered his words.

What these ladies heard from the angels became the rally cry of the first followers of Jesus- **He has risen!** And 2000 years later this is still the foundation of our faith - **He is risen!**

BIG TRUTH: He is Risen is the reason...

- the 1st century disciples were willing to sacrifice their lives to share the message of Jesus.
- we trust WHO Jesus is & WHAT Jesus says.
- we must take the message of Jesus to others.

An Unbelievable Response

Luke 24:9-11 (NIV) When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. But they did not believe the women, because **their words** seemed to them like **nonsense**. Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

Several women who had gone to the tomb - women who were disciples of Jesus. They spoke **to the Eleven...and to all the others**. But those who weren't at the tomb had trouble swallowing the story. Peter and John went to look for themselves (Jn 20:3-4), but they left with more questions than answers.

John's gospel tells us how Mary Magdalene stayed at the tomb weeping...and **Jesus appears to her first** (John 20:14-18)!

🔗 **Quick Question:** If the male disciples of Jesus were making up the story of Jesus rising from the dead, **WHY** would they write the 1st people to see Jesus alive...were women?

Meanwhile...7 Miles Away

Luke 24:13-16 (NIV) Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, **Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him.**

These two men had earlier been a part of **the Eleven and...all the others** back in v.9. They had been present when the ladies showed up from the empty tomb and when Peter & John took off to see it. Maybe they left right after that for **Emmaus**.

Sunday Afternoon Stroll

Luke 24:17-24 (NIV) He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" "What things?" he asked. **"About Jesus of Nazareth,"** they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, **it is the third day since all this took place.** In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of **angels**, who **said he was alive**. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

These disciples of Jesus still couldn't understand that the Messiah *DID* come to **redeem Israel** by offering Himself as their substitutionary sacrifice! They knew Jesus said He would rise on the **third day**, but they never really let that sink in. It's obvious that these disciples were there when the women returned from the tomb had seen and heard the angels say - '**He has risen**'...**first He had to be crucified and on the third day be raised again** (Luke 24:7). Jesus had mentioned rising after 3 days many times before His crucifixion - mentioned twice in Luke's writing: 9:22 and 18:33. Jesus shows patience before the **BIG REVEAL**. But finally...this 'random stranger' begins explaining the Scriptures in the most powerful way.

Sunday School

Luke 24:25-27 (NIV) He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! **Did not the Messiah have to suffer** these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, **he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.**

Maybe Jesus started with the promise to Abraham - through his family all the families of the earth would be blessed (Gen 12:3). What about how God provided a substitutionary sacrifice so Abraham would not have to sacrifice his only son - Isaac (Gen 22)? Jesus likely reminded them of the sacrifice of the Passover lambs, the sacrificial rituals of the Levitical priests, & Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement). Jesus might have pointed to the prophecy of the one who cried out, "*My God, my God why have you forsaken me*"; the pierced one who cried out from the cross 'I'm thirsty' while the soldiers gambled for his clothes - all prophecies found in Ps 22.

Jesus, no doubt, mentioned the Suffering Servant who bore the sins of Israel in Isaiah 53, including this incredible phrase:

The Suffering Servant Foretold

Isaiah 53:10-11 (NIV) Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though **the LORD makes his life an offering for sin**, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. **After he has suffered**, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge **my righteous servant will justify many**, and he will bear their iniquities.

👉 **We should be people of the Scriptures** - both the Old and New Testament as they both point us to Jesus!

The Big Reveal

Luke 24:28-33a (NIV) As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem.

Maybe they had been present the day Jesus broke the bread and fed the 5000. They had likely been around Jesus during many meals as He gave the pre-meal blessing. The prayer life of Jesus was so genuine, so sincere, that His disciples once asked Him, "Lord, teach us to pray [like You do]" (*Join us for that NEXT SUNDAY*). Maybe these were some of the others who were gathered with Jesus on that Thursday night Passover meal, when He broke the bread and said, "*This is my body, broken for you!*" Suddenly **they recognized him!** It was Jesus - raised from the dead!

☀️ *The more Jesus opened the Word, the faster their pulses raced. The stranger had established that suffering and death were not obstacles to Jesus' being Messiah, and in fact made Jesus' claim to be Messiah more credible and compelling. The real Messiah had to suffer! Their confusion and depression melted like frost before the sun. - Kent Hughes*

They couldn't wait until the next day to head to **Jerusalem** and tell the others. **He is Risen is the reason** they made the 7 mile night hike to Jerusalem.

Sharing Stories of the Risen King

Luke 24:33b-35 (NIV) There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, "It is true! **The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.**" Then **the two told what had happened** on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

Jesus Demonstrates He is Risen

Luke 24:36-38 (NIV) While they were still talking about this, **Jesus himself stood among them** and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds?"

Their King had been brutally killed and they WANTED Him to be alive...*but could they trust their senses?* Could their eyes & ears be deceiving them? They weren't about to be duped by delusion - or worse - **a GHOST**. So they were **startled & frightened** - excited & scared all at the same time. The disciples had seen that the BODY of Jesus was GONE. But they needed some assurance that this was a physical resurrection from the dead. That's exactly what Jesus offered.

Luke 24:39-43 (NIV) **Look at my hands and my feet.** It is I myself! **Touch me** and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and **ate it in their presence.**

Could this be REAL? Mary saw Jesus at the tomb. Simon Peter said he saw Jesus. The 2 disciples going to Emmaus had seen Him...now the others were looking at Him...with **joy and amazement**...yet still with some unbelief. Ghosts/Spirits can't eat material food. Jesus did - He has PHYSICALLY RISEN from the dead! Case closed.

The same body that had been in the tomb...was now STANDING, SPEAKING, & EATING...in their presence! This is a foreshadowing of what will happen when the 'dead in Christ raise' - a PHYSICAL RESURRECTION - the dead are raised & transformed - with no more sin nature & never to die again!

After these convincing proofs - to see Him, touch Him, and watch Him eat - Jesus reminds them of what He taught them BEFORE His death.

Jesus is the Fulfillment of the Old Testament Scriptures

Luke 24:44-48 (NIV) He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: **Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me** in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

After Jesus showed them the Messiah had to suffer, die, & rise from the dead *He gives the REASON why it had to happen in the first place* - so that people would **REPENT, be forgiven** of their **sins**, and go tell others!

- If people refuse to recognize their sin, they won't **REPENT** of their sin.
- If they won't REPENT of their SIN, they won't experience the **forgiveness of sins.**
- If they *don't experience forgiveness of sins*, **they will be held accountable for their sins.**
- If no one goes to tells others that forgiveness is offered, **how will they know?**

The 1st century followers of Jesus were **witnesses** of Jesus' teaching, miracles, life, death, & resurrection.

He is Risen is the reason why they would boldly stand & declare Jesus was the only hope for humanity.

He is risen is the reason why they were willing to face persecution & even death. As Jesus had died and raised to life, He would raise them too!

He is Risen is the reason why we can face tough times, sickness, death and KNOW that this side of eternity isn't the end! ... that He will one day raise us from the dead as well.

He is risen is the reason why Fellowship invests thousands of dollars & hundreds of hours in children, teenagers, adults, right here, across America and the oceans - to tell people about our risen King, to call them to repent of sin and turn to Him - BEFORE it's too late!

🕒 And **He is risen is the reason** why you should turn from your sin and turn to Him.



›This week, **fill in this blank & DO IT!**

He is Risen is the reason...I will _____

- serve & share Jesus with others, read & apply the Scripture daily, forgive quickly & walk obediently, invest my time, talents, and treasure in things that have eternal impact, turn from my sin & trust Jesus with my future.

heretoserveyou

Have questions and need some help? ...real soon...how about now? Please **call** or **text** us soon!

- * Contact **Jackie** (850-673-1582), **Christy** (850-673-9764), **Caleb** (864-315-8015), or another follower of Jesus soon!
- * Or call our **deacons & wives**: Alan & Christy Androski (850-464-1428), Steve & Debbie Bass (850-673-7952), Freddy & Joyce Howard (850-973-0047), Tim & Joni Hughey (850-464-1156), Mark & Dot Mancil (850-253-5405), Boss & Amelia Mulkey (850-464-6717), or Tom & Martha Waddail (850-973-0011).

discussionquestions

Take some time to discuss these questions with your family, friends, or group.

1. What challenged or encouraged you most from today's teaching? (Look back in your notes to help explain your answer.)
2. **Read Luke 24:1-8.** What these ladies heard - "He has risen!" - from the angels became the rally cry of the early church. Why do the claims of Jesus stand or fall on whether he has risen or not?
3. Complete this sentence based on your knowledge of the early church & their actions: **'He is Risen is the reason they _____.'**
4. **Read Luke 24:25-33.** How important was the testimony of the Scriptures for Jesus & His followers? What are YOU doing to grow in your knowledge & application of the Scriptures? What practical plan would you recommend to the person who rarely reads the Scriptures?
5. **FEET2FAITH:** Now fill this blank in for your OWN life. **'He is Risen is the reason I will _____.'**
6. Share your prayer needs and **PRAY to the FATHER** together!