

GOING DEEPER STUDY NOTES (April 24, 2022)

FOR PERSONAL OR GROUP STUDY

Easter Sunday began with an empty tomb and a question from Mary, “Where have you taken His body?” And then everything changed. Mary came face to face with Jesus, alive again (John 20:11-16). The women who were the first to visit the empty tomb saw angels who told them that Jesus was not dead but alive (Luke 24:1-9). Two traveling on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus walked with the risen Jesus, talked with Him, listened to Him, ate with Him, (only at the very end, as Jesus blessed and broke bread for them, did they recognize Him) and then Jesus vanished (Luke 24:13-35). Luke tells us that Jesus appeared to Peter (Luke 24:34), we don’t have the details of that anywhere else. And now it is evening that first Easter.

What happened next confirmed everything about Jesus’ resurrection. As the eleven closest to Jesus, His disciples, gathered that night, others were with them too, Jesus suddenly appeared. No gentle knock at the door, a dramatic appearance. Those there were terrified. Jesus spoke words of peace and then offered proof, “touch me and see.” He showed them His hands and feet as evidence that He was not a disembodied spirit but real flesh and bones, a physical body risen from the dead. As added proof He ate a piece of broiled fish in front of them. He lives eternally in the flesh ... and so shall we. Eternity will be glorious, light, love, filled with adventure, flesh and bones, new and renewed relationships, and the presence of One who loves us, One who died for us and rose again, One we will be able to touch and see.

FEARS, DOUBTS, and BROILED FISH (Luke 24:36-53)

Still that first Easter, now the evening ...

“³⁶ As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, ‘Peace to you!’ ³⁷ But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸ And he said to them, ‘Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’ ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate before them. ⁴⁴ Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.’ ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the

Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.’

⁵⁰ And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and were continually in the temple blessing God.”

WHAT DOES IT SAY?

1. What happened when Jesus “stood among them”?
2. Why were they afraid when they saw Jesus?
3. What evidence did Jesus offer to help them calm their fears?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

4. What is the significance of Jesus showing them His “hands and feet”?
5. What does it mean that they “disbelieved for joy”? verse 41
6. What did Jesus mean when He said He would send the “promise of My Father”? Read Acts 1:1-5 and John 16:4-15

WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO YOU?

7. What is something most people are afraid of?
8. Recall a time when you were afraid, really afraid, what helped you calm your fears?
9. What in the Old Testament prepares us for Jesus?
10. Why is the physical bodily resurrection of Jesus so important for Christian faith, and for you?
11. How has your life changed because of Jesus’ resurrection? How has your fear of death changed because of Easter? If it hasn’t changed, why hasn’t it changed?

Your Notes: _____

As you spend time praying remember that prayer is meant to be the most natural, easy, and empowering part of your day. Prayer is talking to God, knowing that He hears you, and that He loves you. In your prayers ask God to help you turn your fears into joy. Ask God to help you understand the promises in the Old Testament. Ask God to help you live with more boldness because Jesus is alive. God will help us because He is ALIVE and He loves us.