

Introduction (24v33-35)

- Notice two excited groups of people: who were they? And what are they excited about?

Remember: The resurrection accounts are there to give us reassurance that Jesus has truly risen from the dead. That God's promise over thousands of years is true. This should reassure us along with the other promises that God has made to us, that they also will come true.

Jesus appears to his disciples (24v36-46)

- Why were the disciples so terrified when Jesus suddenly was standing among them? How did they explain this phenomenon? (24v36-37)

- What point was Jesus trying to make by showing the disciples his hands and feet? (24v39a, 40)

- What point was Jesus trying to make by asking them to handle his flesh and bones? (24v39b)

- What point was Jesus trying to make by eating in their presence? (24v41-43)

- What things do we learn about the nature of the resurrection from Jesus' appearance to his disciples on this occasion? Does this reveal anything to us of what our own resurrection bodies might be like? (See also 1 Corinthians 15v35-58)

- What basics about the Messiah did he teach them on that occasion from Moses, from the Prophets, and from the Psalms? (24:44-46)

Jesus reassures the disciples that his death and resurrection are all part of God's plan, not a diversion from it. He shows the disciples this by referring back to the Old Testament. Isn't this a good pattern for us to follow to prove Jesus is who he said he was?!!

Jesus commissions his disciples (24v47-53)

This third resurrection passage in Luke shows us Jesus' commission to his disciples to go to all nations.

- Do you often feel afraid to witness? Or incapable of debating with your lost friends about the gospel? Discuss why this is. Then ... How have you attempted to overcome this fear in the past?

Not only does Jesus commission his disciples to spread the good news ... but he also empowers them, telling them to wait in Jerusalem until the Spirit comes.

- Notice the difference that the indwelling Holy Spirit has on Peter's life and ministry!! (*Read and Compare the Peter of Luke 22v54-62 with the speeches he makes in Acts 2v14-41, 3v11-26, 4v8-13*) What a change!

- What does it look like to wait on God and for his empowering in our witness? Do we 'wait'?

- The disciples witness involved sharing with others the fact that they had seen Jesus alive firsthand – what a testimony to have! In what ways have you witnessed the Lord's work in your own life? (*Share examples with one another, which you can then share with others as you seek to communicate the gospel to them ... remember, to be a witness you simply need to be able to tell your story!*)

- An example of a possible 'role play' – "Your work colleague says that they are a Christian because they go to church every now and then ... how would you address this person and seek to share the gospel with them?"

As Christians we all have an opportunity to share the gospel, we are all involved in this "March of Faith," we should take heart that it started out so obscurely but will end so comprehensively.

Prayer Points

- Give thanks for the fact of Jesus' resurrection and pray for the Holy Spirit to empower our witness.

- For the marriage course that is running bi-weekly on Saturday evenings up until the beginning of December.

- Romanian shoebox appeal (– to be ready for October 23rd)

gmr