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Group Guide

Resurrection Sunday

March 31, 2024

Main Passage: Luke 24:1-12

Theological Theme

Jesus was raised from the dead and left an empty tomb. Angels told the women He was not there because He had risen. This truth is foundational to our faith.

Introduction

- ❓ How do you see your expectations affecting the way you perceive a situation?
- ❓ When have you had your expectations “blown up” by reality?
- ❓ Why is it important to have big expectations for who God is and what He can do?

1. Discovery (Luke 24:1-3)

The Christian faith is useless apart from the resurrection. This one miracle is foundational to all we believe, and Christ followers are to recognize not only the truth of the resurrection but also the details of the resurrection. Easter celebrates the reality that Jesus died on the cross and rose again three days later to defeat death and sin forever.

- ❓ What do you imagine your perspective would have been had you been one of Jesus’s followers living during the time His death and resurrection took place?
- ❓ How does the women’s example show us to take the next right step, no matter what? Why is it important for us to both be faithful and be open to God working in unexpected ways?
- ❓ Application: How does the empty tomb change everything? How does it change your life specifically?

2. Announcement (Luke 24:4-8)

We don't have to speculate about how the women reacted to the open and empty tomb because Luke tells us they were perplexed. They were prepared to treat the dead body of Jesus, but that was no longer an option. Amid their confusion, the angels showed up. Suddenly what they expected to be a day of following tradition became a miraculous experience unlike any other.

- ❓ How do you typically respond when your expectations must change—for good or bad?
- ❓ What do you think it means that God chose to announce both the birth and resurrection of Jesus to a small group that was dismissed by society?
- ❓ Application: How does the empty tomb and risen Savior spark hope in your life about a situation or circumstance you are currently dealing with?

3. Proclamation (Luke 24:9-12)

The women expected to see the beaten, lifeless body of Jesus and were confronted with the reality of his resurrection. This moment changed everything, and we can learn from their response. After seeing the evidence of the resurrection and remembering the words of Jesus, the women were moved to proclaim this news others.

- ❓ Why does great news prompt us to talk about it? When was a time you couldn't help but share good news with others, whether it involved them or not?
- ❓ Why is it important to share the hope we have in Christ, even if we're met with hesitation by others?
- ❓ Application: Who will you tell about the good news of Jesus's resurrection this week?

Conclusion

- ❓ How does the reality of the resurrection impact your daily life?
- ❓ How can we as a group encourage one another in the truth of the resurrection regularly?
- ❓ Who will you have a gospel conversation with by sharing the story of the resurrection?