

## Luke 24 – HE IS RISEN, HE IS HERE - Guide for Further Study

### Some Key Points

Luke's gospel compresses the resurrection and post-resurrection appearances of Jesus into one chapter. Luke 24 can be divided into the empty tomb experience (vv 1-13), the Emmaus Road appearance (vv 13-35), and a final appearance to the core group of disciples (vv 36-53).

The empty tomb narrative (vv 1-13) underscores a beautiful truth— we worship a Saviour who was victorious over sin and physical death. The “bodily” resurrection (note the physicality of Jesus in vv 39-43) validates the importance of living out our faith on earth. Christian faith is not an “escape plan” from the realities of this world. We are called to serve God's Kingdom and experience the presence of the Lord in the nitty-gritty of everyday life.

Christians should not spend too much time speculating on the nature of the resurrection body. Paul emphasizes that it is unlike our natural body (1 Cor 15:35-58) but it is still, in some sense, a *body* (1 Cor 15:44). That is why, at times, the resurrected Jesus was recognized, other times He was not. That is as much as we can know about our future, resurrected bodies.

The appearances to the Emmaus disciples and original twelve (Luke 24:13-49), happened while scriptures were expounded (v 32, vv 43-47) and meals were shared (v 30, vv 42-43). Christians through history have seen this as evidence that the risen Christ draws near through exposition of scripture and the Lord's supper. The early Jewish disciples would have also linked this to generous hospitality, such as when the Lord appeared and blessed Abraham and Sarah in the context of a meal prepared for three strangers (Genesis 18).

### For discussion:

1. What do you find important in this passage?
2. Identify a time in your life when you felt the nearness of the risen Saviour and when your heart was “burning” (Luke 24:32).
3. The messengers appeared to the disciples when they were perplexed (v 4) and terrified (v 5). Jesus came alongside in a time of diminished hope (v 21), disbelief (v 25), and fear (v 37). What does this say about when Jesus might come near to us today?
4. Eating together was a powerful sign of unity and God's blessing in the early church (Acts 2:42-47; 1 Cor 11:17-34). How might we enhance this practice in church life today?

### Moving forward:

*But they urged Him, saying, come stay with us...* (Luke 24:29). Take some time in prayer, to urge Christ, to stay or draw near to you. Ask the same for our church, Bethany Chapel.