

# Further up, Further in

## Resources for Continued Study



LOOKOUT  
MOUNTAIN  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

### “APPEARANCE OF RISEN JESUS”

For individual study or discussion

The final chapter of *Luke* chronicles a series of *aha!* moments that take place on the first Easter Sunday. Recall the narrative of the perplexed women at the empty tomb who encounter two angels reminding them to call to mind Jesus’ words (vv. 4-8). Or the story of the two sad disciples that meet a mysterious stranger on the road to Emmaus, prompting them to remember as he unfolds the Scriptures before them (vv. 17-32). And in Luke 24:36-49, we encounter the frightened and forgetful eleven who are in hiding when **the risen Christ appears** to them. Jesus urges the uncertain disciples not only to see and touch him, but to remember his words because soon they will be “*witnesses of these things*” to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem (vv. 47-48).

#### Jesus’ Resurrection Experienced (vv. 36-43)

When Jesus suddenly appears in the upper room, the disciples are in panic mode, hiding and afraid. Despite the many reports of Jesus’ resurrection from trustworthy sources, they are still in a state of disbelief. But now they witness Christ for themselves as he stands among them and announces, “*Peace to you!*”

- The disciples first experience with the resurrected Christ is when he utters the words, “*Peace to you*” (v. 36). Read John 14:25-31. In John’s account of the night of Christ’s betrayal, Jesus told his disciples before his arrest and crucifixion that he wanted them to have “*my peace.*” Jesus obediently went to the cross in order to secure peace with God, so that his disciples could know the peace of God. What did Jesus mean when he said, “*My peace I give to you*”? Discuss the implications of the disciples having had this conversation with Jesus before his death (John 14) and where they are now in Luke 24. Why is it important to remember (Hebrews 2:1-4)? How did Christ bring peace and what impact does it have for the church (Ephesians 2:14-22)?

#### Jesus’ Resurrection Explained (vv. 44-47)

While those closest to Christ should have been storing up his words in their hearts, in Luke 24 we find forgetfulness to be a common characteristic among Christ’s followers. In today’s passage we learn that even the appearance of the risen Jesus needs to be grounded in God’s Word. While the disciples are thinking, “*It’s too good to be true!*” Jesus prepares a history lesson. He still needs to connect the dots for them. Resting their faith on the miracle of Jesus’ resurrection would not be sufficient, so Jesus reminds them of his words and “*opened their minds to understand the Scriptures*” (vv. 44-47).

- Read Psalm 103:1-5. Remembering God’s works and word is a consistent theme in the Old Testament. What happens when God’s people forget his truth? (See also Deuteronomy 8:11-20.)

#### Jesus’ Commission Expressed (vv. 47-49)

Jesus’ resurrection and subsequent appearances to his disciples are meant not only to comfort them, but also to commission them (vv. 47-49). Jesus’ mission and message are central to the expansion of the Kingdom of God, as his people will be “*a light for the nations*” (Isaiah 49:5-6). The Great Commission, recorded in Matthew 28:16-20, emphasizes the role of God’s people as emissaries who will carry the Kingdom message forward into the world, making the nations Christ’s disciples (v. 19).

- The Kingdom of God is an essential part of Jesus’ redemptive mission (cf. Daniel 7:13-14). According to Psalm 22:27-31, as the mission and message of the Kingdom of God are proclaimed, what will be the results?
- While the Great Commission outlined in Matthew 28:19-20 gives a clear command to make disciples, Luke’s only imperative is to “*stay in the city.*” According to Isaiah 32:15, Joel 2:28-32, and Acts 1:4-8, why is this imperative important to Jesus’ commission?

DATE: May 4, 2025

SPEAKER: Wil/Brian

SERIES: Gospel of Luke

PASSAGE: Luke 24:36-49

### Family Dinner Table

#### From Mystery to Mission

There is a scene from C.S. Lewis’ *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* that is similar to the moment in Luke 24 when the disciples are startled and uncertain whether they can trust what they see. Lucy and Susan have just watched Aslan die on the Stone Table. Their hearts are crushed and all hope seems lost. But then at the break of dawn, Aslan returns to life and the girls are stunned: *It’s too good to be true!* Aslan then speaks to them of the deep magic: “*If the Witch knew the true meaning of the Deep Magic, she would have known that when a willing victim who had committed no treachery was killed in a traitor’s stead, the Stone Table would crack and Death itself would start working backward.*”<sup>1</sup> Still there is work to be done. And with the girls by his side Aslan says, “*We have a long journey to go. You must ride on me.*”<sup>2</sup> Like Jesus, Aslan doesn’t just show up, he explains. Jesus roots his resurrection in the Scriptures, connecting the dots for his disciples. He then commissions them, “*You are witnesses of these things*” (v. 48). Like Aslan’s call to ride, Jesus says to his followers, “*This isn’t the end of the story. This is the beginning of your journey. You’ve witnessed the risen Christ, now go, proclaim the Good News to the nations.*”

- Where in your life is God moving you from mystery (confusion, waiting, fear) to mission (clarity, calling, obedience)? How can you live as a bold witness of Jesus this week?

#### PRAY FOR HOME MISSIONS

TVP Church Planting Movement,  
denominational partner ministry

#### PRAY FOR WORLD MISSIONS

Clarissa and William, supported  
missionary partners

<sup>1-2</sup> Lewis, C.S. *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. 2000, NY NY. Harper Collins.