

Luke

Carefully Investigating the Gospel ... Together

SSBC Luke Bible Study #96

Take this Bible Study home and use it to guide your exploration of the scripture passage that next Sunday's sermon will be focused on.

Passage: Luke 24:1-12

Sermon Date: Aug 5, 2007

What Do I Anticipate?

I remember as a child anticipating the gifts that would be under the tree on Christmas morning. It was so hard to fall asleep on Christmas Eve because the anticipation was so strong. In the morning there was no lingering in bed, hitting the “snooze” on the alarm clock (who needed an alarm clock that day?). Walking (okay, racing) down the hall toward the living room, my heart beat raced as fast as my legs ran. I was sure the gifts would be there.

If I had been alive in Jesus' day, would I have awoken on the third day after his death with similar anticipation? It seems like anyone with today's hindsight about the resurrection would surely hop out of bed, race to the tomb, and shout with joy at the sight of the stone rolled away and the empty tomb. He is Risen! We are Saved! The Kingdom of God is upon us!

But instead, only the faithful women went down, and that was to apply spices and perfume to the body. How would the disciples react to the news that the tomb was empty? What were they anticipating? Luke 24:1-12 shows us.

As you start this study, pray that God would help you to anticipate Him today – to truly believe that “He is Risen!”

These studies are produced by South Shore Baptist Church in conjunction with our weekly sermon series. Studies are distributed one week prior to the sermon as inserts in the church bulletin and are also posted at <http://sermonhouse.com/SSBC>. Sermons are also recorded and can be listened to later by visiting that same website. Have feedback or questions? Contact studieditor@southshorebaptist.com

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1. Read this week's Bible passage and use the chart below to note your observations and any questions you have.

| Scripture | Your Observations & Questions |
|---|-------------------------------|
| <p>¹ On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. ⁵ In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ⁷ 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'" ⁸ Then they remembered his words.</p> <p>⁹ When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. ¹⁰ It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. ¹² Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.</p> | |

2. Retrace a few scriptures that show the prophecies about the resurrection of Jesus and what the disciples should have been anticipating. What had been predicted?

Psalm 16:10

Mt 16:21

Mt 26:32

John 2:19

Acts 26:22-23

3. If someone asked you what the resurrection of Jesus was all about, how would you answer them?

4. Next, use this chart to **interpret some key observations**.

a. Select a few of your observations & questions from pages 2-3 that you find most interesting or important. Rewrite these below, and interpret and apply them using the columns to the right.

b. For each observation, begin to interpret by asking yourself these kinds of questions:

- What does it mean?
- Why is this important?
- What does this tell me about the Father? Jesus? The Holy Spirit?
- Are there other scriptures that could help me understand this?

| Observation What does it say? | Interpretation What does it mean? |
|---|---|
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5. Now consider how you can **apply** the Word to your life. Look for:

- **S**ins to avoid
- **P**romises to believe
- **E**xamples to follow (remember "SPECK")
- **C**ommands to obey
- **K**nowledge to share

Don't just write things to write them – listen carefully to God's Word and what he seems to be teaching you, and look for relevant things that you're truly stirred to do. Then as you do them, God will help you learn, grow, and help others grow.

| Application How do I apply what it means? |
|---|
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Look Closer:

6. What are the implications of a person believing or not believing in the resurrection of Jesus? (Jn 11:25-26)

7. Do you believe that Jesus really rose from the dead? What aspects of the resurrection do you have questions about? Write down a few of your questions.

8. Read 1 Cor 15. What new insight about the resurrection did you gain from this passage? Did you find any answers to your questions?

9. What is the significance of Jesus rising from the dead?
a. Theologically? (what it tells us about God and His Kingdom)

b. For you personally? (how the resurrection affects your life)

10. What has God promised us, his children, regarding our own death and life after death? (See Ps 49:15, Lk 14:14, Jn 5:24-29, 6:40, 11:25-26, 2 Cor 4:13-14, 1 Thess 4:14-17)

11. The disciples struggled to understand or believe that Jesus would rise from the dead, despite it being predicted so clearly to them. On this, the “third day”, they clearly weren’t anticipating the resurrection.

We are faced with a perhaps similar challenge (faith opportunity) today. The scriptures tell us that Jesus will be coming back again (Luke 21:27, Acts 1:11, Heb 9:27-28, James 5:8, Rev 22:12, 20). What evidence is there in your life that you are anticipating Jesus’ return? On the other hand, what evidence is there that you are not really anticipating Jesus’ return as you enter each day?

12. How could (or should) your study of this passage affect your life in the week ahead? What will you do to apply what you’ve learned and experienced during this study?

13. Close your study time by prayerfully reading and/or singing the words of Charles Wesley's familiar hymn:

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

Christ the Lord is risen today, Al-le-lu-ia!
Sons of men and angels say; Al-le-lu-ia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high; Al-le-lu-ia!
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth reply; Al-le-lu-ia!

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Al-le-lu-ia!
Christ has burst the gates of hell: Al-le-lu-ia!
Death in vain forbids him rise; Al-le-lu-ia!
Christ hath opened paradise. Al-le-lu-ia!

Lives again our glorious King; Al-le-lu-ia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al-le-lu-ia!
Once he died, our souls to save; Al-le-lu-ia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Al-le-lu-ia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Al-le-lu-ia!
Following our exalted Head; Al-le-lu-ia!
Made like him, like him we rise; Al-le-lu-ia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Al-le-lu-ia!

Hail, the Lord of earth and heav'n! Al-le-lu-ia!
Praise to thee by both be giv'n; Al-le-lu-ia!
Thee we greet triumphant now; Al-le-lu-ia!
Hail, the resurrection thou! Al-le-lu-ia!

Author: Charles Wesley, 1739

“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

Jesus Christ, speaking to Martha in John 11:25-26