

Series: Easter Sunday 2025 Passage: Luke 23:50-24:27 Title: The Resurrection of Jesus Christ Speaker: David Menard 4/20/2025

Discussion Starter – Can you describe some fact or event that you are confident is real, but does not effect the choices you make in your day-to-day life? (Examples may include atomic physics, Publisher's Clearinghouse Sweepstakes, international economics and trade policies.) In what ways does embracing the resurrection of Jesus Christ dramatically affect your life?

Read Luke 23:50-56

- 1) What testimony does Luke provide concerning the dead body of Jesus?
- 2) Who was Joseph of Arimathea? What was his hope? What was his surprise?
 - a) Does your hope align with God's promise and will?

Read Luke 24:1-12

- 3) Does it appear that the women who went to the tomb had any hope in a resurrection? What did they hope to accomplish with their visit? Was their visit a venture of faith or faithfulness? What is the difference, (if any)?
- 4) What question did the angels ask of the women? Why do we look for new and vibrant life in places that we know are lifeless dead-ends?
 - b) When you are faced with hopeless situations, do you turn to destructive behaviors, or do you continue to press on?
- 5) When had Jesus clearly declared to His disciples that He would be crucified and rise from the dead? Why had the disciples not taken these declarations as literal and believable predictions?

Read Luke 24:13-27

- 6) How were the eyes of these 2 disciples restrained so that they did not recognize Jesus? Did God restrain their vision, or was it self-inflicted?
 - c) What pre-suppositions, prejudices, or world views do we have that hinder our faith to believe the clear teaching of the Bible? How does "confirmation bias" serve to restrict us from growing in faith?
 - d) How do our pre-conceptions about God often result in a God that looks like ourselves?
- 7) What does Jesus words in verses 25 and 26 reveal about our heart condition and that of the disciples? How can we effectively combat a heart that is "slow to believe"?
- 8) What texts or narratives might Jesus have taught from the Hebrew Scriptures to the disciples that would have testified of Himself?
- 9) What eternal truths are proved by the resurrection? Why are these truths easy to understand, yet difficult to fully embrace?
- 10) What is Paul's declaration in Galatians 2:20? What is the path we must follow to share in Jesus' resurrection life?