

Luke's Ancient Biography of Jesus 2 Notes on Lesson Ten: The Resurrection

Lesson Ten: The Resurrection

Luke 24:13 – 53

Central Message

The disciples were full of grief and fear. All their hopes were taken away when Jesus died. How could these same people go into the city of Jerusalem again, back to the temple...full of JOY, thanking God? Is it possible that they just decided to pretend that Jesus was alive? Did they have a dream about Jesus? No, Jesus met at different times with Mary, Peter, his own brother James, and even a crowd of 500 people.¹ It was not a lie. It was not a dream. Something happened to completely change the lives of the disciples. The power of the resurrection can change your life, as well.

Life Application

Following Jesus is the beginning of a new life. “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”

¹ Peter 1:3

Community-Building Activity and Introduction *Joy and Wonder*

Preparation: Write the instructions on a board, or print the worksheet or cover page from the supplementary materials. If you use the instruction strips, copy and cut enough strips for each person.

Instructions: There are two questions. The strips only have the first. 1. Luke records in 24:41, “...the disciples still could not believe, they were so full of joy and wonder.” Has anything happened to you that filled you with so much joy and wonder that you had trouble believing it was true? Tell your stories. 2. Review the events of the previous lesson. The text in this lesson begins “on that same day.” What has given the women hope?

Teaching Notes: Try rotating pairs so they can share their story (the first question) more than once.² The second question is also asked in the workbook introduction.

¹ John 20:14 and 1 Corinthians 15:5-7

² When a pair is finished sharing, each person finds a new partner. This can happen several times.

© Janet V. Payne, March 17, 2003, page 1, www.lifeenglish.net. All rights reserved.

Luke's Ancient Biography of Jesus 2

Notes on Lesson Ten: The Resurrection

Lesson Notes

Luke 24:13 – 53

Preparation:

Note that the numbers below refer to the numbers in the workbook. There are several changes in numbering, so the new version is included with this guide.

1. Do this as a large group to save time. Write the titles on a board or large piece of paper.
2. It would be possible to teach this lesson without studying Luke 24:13-32, Jesus on the road to Emmaus. Another option, in order to keep the story cohesive while shortening it, would be to read these verses and incorporate any questions or discussion as you read.
3. Section A: You will notice that the workbook asks the observation questions directly. In almost every other lesson, the students ask the questions or do other tasks in order to make their observations. The questions are asked here to help the class work through this section more quickly. As always, the questions are found directly in the text. Rather than answer the questions here, the texts are cited.
 - What were these two men talking about before they met Jesus on the road? See Luke 24:14.
 - What did they talk about with Jesus? Ask them to find the verses, Luke 24: 17-24, and summarize them. (Note that, according to these men, just about everyone in Jerusalem knew about Jesus' death.)
 - What "had they hoped" about Jesus? Luke 24:21.
 - How did they recognize Jesus? The story is Luke 24:28-31. They recognized him when he broke the bread. Jesus always prayed as he did this, so maybe it was his prayer. There is another reason given in verse 31, "their eyes were opened." Perhaps in some way God prevented them from seeing before this point. Their eyes were opened in either case.
 - What happened as soon as they recognized Jesus? Luke 24:31,32 and 33 (next section).
4. Section B: Remember again that all the answers come from the text.

Verses	How did the disciples feel?
Luke 24: 36-39	"They were terrified, thinking that they were seeing a ghost." Jesus used the word, "alarmed" and says, "Why are these doubts coming up in your minds?"

Luke's Ancient Biography of Jesus 2 Notes on Lesson Ten: The Resurrection

Luke24: 41	"They still could not believe, they were so full of joy and wonder."
Luke 24: 52-53	"They worshiped him and went back into Jerusalem, filled with great joy, and spent all their time in the Temple giving thanks to God."

5. What did Jesus do to prove that he was alive? (This question was moved from the LEARN section, number 2. If you are using the previous version, ask this question at this time.) Jesus invited them to touch him, "Look at my hands and my feet, and see that it is I myself. Feel me, and you will know, for a ghost doesn't have flesh and bones, as you can see I have." Then he "showed them his hands and feet." He ate fish while they watched, and taught the scriptures to them.

LEARN

6. (Previously #1) This is a central question. The change is evident in the chart above. The simple answer is that they came to believe that they were really seeing Jesus, and that he was really alive.
7. Jesus used the scriptures to prove that he was the Messiah, both by showing that what was written "had to come true," and by opening their eyes to see that the death and resurrection was part of that prophecy.
8. Jesus tells the disciples that "in his name the message about repentance and the forgiveness of sins must be preached to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem." He also told them that they are the ones to do this, "You are witnesses of these things. Jesus asked them to wait in the city "until the power from above comes down upon you." The Father promised this power, and Jesus said he will give it. (See the LINK section.)
9. The Gospel ends in the temple (where it started). The disciples were "filled with great joy," and spent "all their time praising God."
10. This question was part of the LIVE section before, but it is mostly an interpretation question. (It is worded differently here.)
For the disciples and the early church, the historical fact of the resurrection was at the center of their faith. If the resurrection account is true,
...where is Jesus now, dead or alive?
...what is Jesus' true identity?
...what can we conclude about the rest of Jesus' teaching?
Their interpretations will vary. Here are some notes:
- ...where is Jesus now? Jesus is in Heaven, and he is alive.
 - ...what is Jesus' true identity? No one can raise himself from the dead, so Jesus is either God or very close to God.

Luke's Ancient Biography of Jesus 2

Notes on Lesson Ten: The Resurrection

- ...what can we conclude about the rest of Jesus' teaching? If this is true, as Jesus predicted, then the rest of his teaching is true. (There is more one can imply from this about the reliability of the Bible.)

LINK This is a brief introduction to the Holy Spirit who, as Jesus claimed in John 14:17, lived WITH the disciples, but would come to live IN them. Wherever Jesus was, His Spirit was at work in the people he met. This is true today for the people who are in your Bible study group. The Spirit has been following your group through the pages of the Gospel, helping them to understand as their faith grows. When they repent and believe, the Holy Spirit will come to live IN them.

LIVE Discuss one of the questions or ask them to pick one to answer. Note that questions 2 and 3 are new. The questions are listed first, then the answers are explored.

1. What type of evidence would you look for in order to show that the resurrection was an actual, historical event?
2. Does Jesus' resurrection prove that there is life after death? What do you believe, and why?³
3. *Do you think* the Holy Spirit has spoken to you through these studies in Luke? How has he done that? What have you learned?

1. This question will prepare them for the background paper on the historical evidence for the resurrection. List the types of evidence they mention on a board or a large sheet of paper if possible, and refer back to the list as the background paper is studied. There will be another time to add to the list, so just see what they can come up with. See the notes below about the background paper.
2. This question is personal, so their answers will vary. Note the footnote that links the question to Jesus' words.
3. This is an application of what they learned in the LINK section. They learn that the Holy Spirit is a counselor who opens our eyes to the truth. They may be able to see how He has been at work in their lives, even if they do not yet believe. This is also an opportunity for others to share how they live as Christians.

Be sure to read the "Consider This" section.

The disciples were full of grief and fear. All their hopes were taken away when Jesus died. How could these same people go into the city of Jerusalem again, back to the temple...full of JOY, thanking God? Is it possible that they just decided to pretend that Jesus was alive? Did they have a dream about Jesus? No, Jesus met at different times with Mary, Peter, his own brother James, and even a crowd of 500

³ See the Final Word for Jesus' words on this topic.

Luke's Ancient Biography of Jesus 2

Notes on Lesson Ten: The Resurrection

people.⁴ It was not a lie. It was not a dream. Something happened to completely change their lives.

The power of the resurrection can change your life, as well. A simple prayer to God is all you need. Ask him to forgive you and to give you new life so that you can live forever with Jesus.

FINAL WORD:

“I am the resurrection⁵ 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 in John 11: 25-26 NIV

BACKGROUND PAPER: “Evidence for the Resurrection” (Coming) This background paper can be combined with the epilogue for an additional lesson.

⁴ John 20:14 and 1 Corinthians 15: 5-7.

⁵ “Resurrection” means physically coming back to life after death.

Luke's Ancient Biography of Jesus 2

Lesson Ten: The Resurrection

Lesson Ten: The Resurrection

Luke 24:13 – 53

In the last lesson, Jesus was killed and put into a tomb. Three days later, the tomb was empty. The disciples did not know what had happened.

In this lesson, the disciples were “filled with great joy, and spent all their time in the Temple giving thanks to God.” What caused such a change in the disciples?

Community Time



Joy and Wonder

Luke records in 24:41, “the disciples still could not believe, they were so full of joy and wonder.” Has anything happened to you that filled you with so much joy and wonder that you had trouble believing it was true? Tell your stories.

Review the events of the previous lesson. The text in this lesson begins “on that same day.” What has given the women hope?¹

¹ This question is also asked at the beginning of the lesson.

Luke's Ancient Biography of Jesus 2

Lesson Ten: The Resurrection

Joy and Wonder

Luke records in 24:41, "the disciples still could not believe, they were so full of joy and wonder." Has anything happened to you that filled you will so much joy and wonder that you had trouble believing it was true? Tell your stories.

Joy and Wonder

Luke records in 24:41, "the disciples still could not believe, they were so full of joy and wonder." Has anything happened to you that filled you will so much joy and wonder that you had trouble believing it was true? Tell your stories.

Joy and Wonder

Luke records in 24:41, "the disciples still could not believe, they were so full of joy and wonder." Has anything happened to you that filled you will so much joy and wonder that you had trouble believing it was true? Tell your stories.

Joy and Wonder

Luke records in 24:41, "the disciples still could not believe, they were so full of joy and wonder." Has anything happened to you that filled you will so much joy and wonder that you had trouble believing it was true? Tell your stories.

Joy and Wonder

Luke records in 24:41, "the disciples still could not believe, they were so full of joy and wonder." Has anything happened to you that filled you will so much joy and wonder that you had trouble believing it was true? Tell your stories.

Joy and Wonder

Luke records in 24:41, "the disciples still could not believe, they were so full of joy and wonder." Has anything happened to you that filled you will so much joy and wonder that you had trouble believing it was true? Tell your stories.

Joy and Wonder

Luke records in 24:41, "the disciples still could not believe, they were so full of joy and wonder." Has anything happened to you that filled you will so much joy and wonder that you had trouble believing it was true? Tell your stories.

Joy and Wonder

Luke records in 24:41, "the disciples still could not believe, they were so full of joy and wonder." Has anything happened to you that filled you will so much joy and wonder that you had trouble believing it was true? Tell your stories.

Luke's Ancient Biography of Jesus 2

Lesson Ten: The Resurrection

On the Day of the Resurrection From the Luke 23

Student Project²

Narrator: Jesus died on a Friday and was buried in a tomb. The women disciples helped to prepare Jesus' body for burial. However, they had to finish before sundown because that was the start of the Sabbath, a Jewish holiday. There was not enough time to prepare the body properly. So, on Sunday, the first day of the week, early in the morning, several women who loved Jesus went to the tomb with spices to anoint his body.

Conversation among 3 or 4 women as they walked to the tomb:

Women 1: I can't believe that Jesus, our teacher, is dead.

Women 2: I feel so lost, so sad.

Women 3: I know. I'm sad too, but I'm also afraid. I wonder if the guards will be at the tomb?³

W1: If they are, do you think they would arrest us?

W2: Hush. This might be our last chance to see our teacher.

W3: Right. We must hurry. It's getting light.

W1: What are we going to do about that heavy stone that's covering the opening?

W2: Do you think three of us could move the stone away?

W3: That's impossible. We should have brought some disciples with us.

W1: Well. We can't go back now. Let's hope someone will help us.

They arrive at the tomb:

W2: Ah! The stone's gone!

² This skit was written by YounHee Jee, and is used here with permission.

³ Luke does not tell us there are guards, but Matthew does in Matthew 27: 62-66. Pilate ordered guards, but the guards left after the stone was rolled away.

© Janet Payne, April 5, 2003, www.lifeenglish.net. Permission granted for paper copies for individuals or study groups.

Luke's Ancient Biography of Jesus 2

Lesson Ten: The Resurrection

W3: Who do you think could have moved it?

W3: I don't know, but I'm thankful it's gone. Now we can get inside.

They enter the tomb:

(The women look around with wonder, surprise, and concern. They show this with facial expressions and body gestures)

W2: Where's Jesus' body?

Two angels appear:

(The women are terrified. They bow down, with faces to the ground.)

Angel 1: Women, don't be afraid. I know you're looking for Jesus who died. He's not here anymore. He's risen. Look where his body had been.

Angel 2: Remember what he told you before. He must be killed but he will rise again on the third day. Now, go tell this good news to his disciples.

The women leave the tomb:

(They look happy but confused.)

W1: I can't believe this! It seems too wonderful to be true. Can our teacher really be alive?

W2: I do remember now that he told us he would die and rise again. I guess we just didn't understand it then.

W3: We must hurry and tell the disciples. They will be so happy, too.

10

The Resurrection

Luke 24:13 – 53

In the last lesson, the disciples, including the women, were sad and confused. Even so, they had hope that Jesus was alive. Review the events of the previous lesson. This text begins “on that same day.” What has given the women hope?

LOOK OVER the Text

1. Read the first verse of each section to discover the setting. Use that information to write a title for the section.
2. Read Luke 24:13-53.

A. _____

24:13 On that same day two of Jesus’ followers were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, 24:14 and they were talking to each other about all the things that had happened. 24:15 As they talked and discussed, Jesus himself drew near and walked along with them; 24:16 they saw him, but somehow did not recognize him.¹ 24:17 Jesus said to them, “What are you talking about to each other, as you walk along?”

They stood still, with sad faces. 24:18 One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only visitor in Jerusalem who doesn’t know the things that have been

happening there these last few days?”

24:19 “What things?” he asked.

“The things that happened to Jesus of Nazareth,” they answered. “This man was a prophet and was considered by God and by all the people to be powerful in everything he said and did. 24:20 Our chief priests and rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and he was crucified. 24:21 And we had hoped that he would be the one who was going to set Israel free! Besides all that, this is now the third day since it happened. 24:22 Some of the women of our group surprised us; they went at dawn to the tomb, 24:23 but could not find his body. They came back saying they had seen a vision of angels who told them that he is alive. 24:24 Some of our group went to the tomb and found it exactly as the women had said, but they did not see him.”

24:25 Then Jesus said to them, “How foolish you are, how slow you are to believe everything the prophets said! 24:26 Was it not necessary for the Messiah to suffer these things and then to enter his glory?”² 24:27 And Jesus explained to them what was said about himself in all the Scriptures, beginning with the books of Moses and the writings of all the prophets.

24:28 As they came near the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther; 24:29 but they held him back, saying, “Stay with us; the day is almost over and it is getting dark.” So he went in to stay with them. 24:30 He sat down to eat with them, took the bread, and said the blessing; then he broke the bread and

¹ They did not know that it was Jesus.

gave it to them. 24:31 Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he disappeared³ from their sight. 24:32 They said to each other, “Wasn’t it like a fire burning in us when he talked to us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?”

B. _____

24:33 They got up at once and went back to Jerusalem, where they found the eleven disciples gathered together with the others 24:34 and saying, “The Lord is risen indeed!⁴ He has appeared to Simon!” 24:35 The two then explained to them what had happened on the road, and how they had recognized the Lord when he broke the bread.

24:36 While the two were telling them this, suddenly the Lord himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” 24:37 They were terrified,⁵ thinking that they were seeing a ghost.⁶ 24:38 But he said to them, “Why are you alarmed?⁷ Why are these doubts⁸ coming up in your minds? 24:39 Look at my hands and my feet, and see that it is I myself. Feel me, and you will know, for a ghost doesn’t have flesh⁹ and bones, as you can see I have.”

24:40 He said this and showed them his hands and his feet. 24:41 They still could not believe, they were so full of joy and wonder; so he asked them, “Do you have anything to eat?” 24:42 They gave him a piece of cooked fish, 24:43 which he took and

² We saw in Luke 9:32 that Jesus’ glory is connected with his death. It is also connected with his resurrection and return to heaven.

³ He was suddenly gone, and they had no idea how he left. Jesus had a real body, but he could come and go at any time.

⁴ “The Lord is risen,” means that Jesus is out of the grave and alive.

⁵ They were very afraid.

⁶ A ghost is a spirit without a body.

⁷ “Alarm” is sudden fear or anxiety.

ate in their presence. 24:44 Then he said to them, “These are the very things I told you about while I was still with you: everything written about me in the Law of Moses, the writings of the prophets, and the Psalms had to come true.” 24:45 Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, 24:46 and said to them, “This is what is written: the Messiah must suffer and must rise from death three days later, 24:47 and in his name the message about repentance and the forgiveness of sins¹⁰ must be preached to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem. 24:48 You are witnesses of these things. 24:49 And I myself will send upon you what my Father has promised. But you must wait in the city until the power from above comes down upon you.”

24:50 Then he led them out of the city as far as Bethany, where he raised his hands and blessed them. 24:51 As he was blessing them, he departed from them and was taken up into heaven. 24:52 They worshiped him and went back into Jerusalem, filled with great joy, 24:53 and spent all their time in the Temple giving thanks to God. GNB

LABEL the Text

3. **Section A:** Work on these observation questions in small groups.
- What were these two men talking about before they met Jesus on the road?
 - What did they talk about with Jesus?
 - What “had they hoped” about Jesus?
 - How did they recognize Jesus?
 - What happened as soon as they recognized Jesus?

⁸ To “doubt” is to question whether something is true.

⁹ Flesh is the covering on a body, such as skin and muscles.

4. **Section B:** Fill in the chart with words from the text.

Verses	How did the disciples feel?
Luke 24: 36-39	
Luke 24: 41	
Luke 24: 52-53	

5. How did Jesus prove to the disciples that he was really alive?

LEARN from the Text

6. Notice how much the disciple’s feelings changed. What caused the change?

7. God promised to send the Messiah to rescue his people. In this text, how did Jesus prove to the disciples that he was the Messiah?

¹⁰ Repentance is your part: you are sorry for your sins and you turn back to God. Forgiveness is God’s part: Jesus takes your place, so the record of your sins is erased. You are cleaned, forgiven and given a new life.

8. What instructions does Jesus give to the disciples?

9. How does the *Gospel of Luke* end?

10. For the disciples and the early church, the historical fact of the resurrection was at the center of their faith. If the resurrection account is true,
...where is Jesus now, dead or alive?

...what is Jesus' true identity?

...what can we conclude about the rest of Jesus' teaching?

LINK to Jesus' Words about the Holy Spirit

Jesus told the disciples that he would never leave them alone. He spoke of God as "the Father," "the Son," and "the Holy Spirit."¹¹ Here are some of Jesus' words about the Holy Spirit.

John 14:15-17

<p>If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever — the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. NIV</p>

Note that the Spirit lives WITH the disciples, but after Jesus returns to Heaven, He will be IN them.

¹¹ These are from Jesus' words in Matthew 28:19.

John 14:26

But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.
NIV

Right before Jesus returned to heaven, at the very end of Luke, he gave this instruction.

Luke 24:49

And I myself will send upon you what my Father has promised. But you must wait in the city until the power from above comes down upon you. GNB

The Holy Spirit is God's powerful and loving Spirit. He is also called the Spirit of Jesus.¹² This is not a ghost, but the real person of God. A spirit is not a physical person, so the Holy Spirit cannot be seen. However, God chose a way to show himself that we would understand. The Spirit is like a counselor who is always with us, always available to listen and to show us the way. Read Acts 1-2 to learn how this "power from above" came down.

LIVE What you Learn

Discuss one of these questions:

1. What type of evidence would you look for in order to show that the resurrection was an actual, historical event?
2. Does Jesus' resurrection prove that there is life after death? What do you believe about this, and why?¹³
3. *Do you think* the Holy Spirit has spoken to you through these studies in Luke? How has he done that? What have you learned?

Consider this:

The disciples were full of grief and fear. All their hopes were taken away when Jesus died. How could these same people go into the city of Jerusalem again, back to the temple... full of JOY, thanking God? Is it possible that they just decided to pretend that Jesus was alive? Did they have a dream about Jesus? No, Jesus met at different times with Mary, Peter, his own brother

¹² Acts 16:7

¹³ See the Final Word for Jesus' words on this topic.

James, and even a crowd of 500 people.¹⁴ It was not a lie. It was not a dream. Something happened to completely change the lives of the disciples. The power of the resurrection can change your life, as well.

Following Jesus is the beginning of a new life. “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”

1 Peter 1:3

The Final Word

“I am the resurrection¹⁵ 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 in John 11: 25-26 NIV

¹⁴ John 20:14 and 1 Corinthians 15: 5-7.

¹⁵ “Resurrection” means physically coming back to life after death.