

The Power of Resurrection Hope

Luke 24:20-32

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Luke 24:20-32 The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹ but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²² In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³ but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴ Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus." ²⁵ He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. ²⁸ As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³² They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" (NIV)

Our Vision: Connect with Christ, Church, and Community

1. _____ on the path to hope

_____: He asked, "What's this you're discussing so intently as you walk along?" They just stood there, long-faced, like they had lost their best friend. Luke 24:17 (MSG)

_____: Jesus was a prophet who did powerful miracles and spoke the very words of God before everyone, but our leaders conspired with the Romans and they betrayed him and crucified him...we can't believe it turned out this way... Luke 24:19-20 (JOT)

_____: Our only hope was that Jesus was the One to set Israel free from the Roman empire, now it is the third day since he died. Our hope seems to be completely lost but... Luke 24:21 (JOT)

2. _____ the power of hope

_____: It happened that as they were walking along the road intently discussing the events of the day, Jesus came up to them, but their eyes could not perceive that it was Jesus. Luke 24:15-16 (JOT)

_____ the narrative: Jesus said to them, "My goodness! You are unthinking about God's grand narrative and you are slow to believe in your hearts all that the scriptures have told you! Don't you realize that the Messiah had to come and suffer in order to redeem the world? Luke 24:25-26 (JOT)

_____: But they begged him, "Stay the night with us...he took the bread and blessed it. Then he broke it...their eyes were opened, and they recognized him....Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road...?" Luke 24:29-32 (NLT)

3. _____ to an enduring hope

_____ love: And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love. Romans 5:4-5 (NLT)

Spiritual Action Step:

Where are you this Easter? Are you stuck in a pit of discouragement? Disappointment? Or despair? God is reaching out to you! Jesus said, *For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.* (John 3:16 NLT). The resurrection is the proof that Jesus offered himself so that we would find a life filled with hope and peace. Let the truth of God into your life by accepting Christ as Lord. You will find encouragement that will lift you into hope! This week, read Luke 24 and John 3 to encounter the power of resurrection in your life.

Translations: NIV: New International Version; MSG: The Message; JOT: Jon's Own Translation; NLT: New Living Translation