

The Jesus Way – We Follow a Risen Savior **Luke 24:1-12**

It's Resurrection Sunday... But do we believe it? Is Jesus truly alive? **The Christian faith hinges on this one truth – that Jesus rose from the dead!**

But how do we know for sure? **There were eyewitness accounts... over 500!**

- Mary Magdalene & some other women - **John 20:11-18, Matthew 28:8-10**
- The disciple Peter – **Luke 24:34**
- The 10 disciples (minus Thomas) – **Luke 24:36-43**
- The 11 disciples (with Thomas) – **John 20:24-29, Matthew 28:16-20**
- 7 disciples by the Sea of Galilee – **John 21:1-14**
- More than 500 people all at once – **1 Corinthians 15:6**
- James (likely Jesus' brother) – **1 Corinthians 15:7**
- Saul/Apostle Paul – **1 Corinthians 15:8, Acts 9:1-6**

All these people saw, with their own eyes, Jesus alive after his death!

But what if we can't see Him? What if we can't recognize His presence in our midst? There's hope for us... found in another resurrection appearance.

- **Cleopas and another disciple on the road to Emmaus – Luke 24:13-35**

What did you notice about this resurrection appearance? What stuck out?

Vs. 15-16 – “While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near & went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him.”

For reasons we do not know, Jesus walked with them along the road, but they were unable to see that it was Jesus who was present with them!

What if the same is true for us today? **What if we are just unable at times to see the presence of Jesus, & recognize that He is walking with us today as well?**

What can we learn from Cleopas, & this other disciple, in their walk with Jesus on resurrection day, that can help us walk in the Jesus Way today?

- 1) **It doesn't matter who you are, or what path you are on, Jesus can meet you there!** Cleopas Who?... A no-name disciple... on the path to Where?

It doesn't matter where you've been, or where you think you are going, Jesus is alive... & He can find a way, to make a way for you – **Good Friday!**

- 2) **Keep Jesus a part of your conversations with others!** It's ok to not have all the answers... It's ok to ask honest questions... It's ok to wrestle...

Cleopas & the other disciple were conversing about what they had seen, heard, experienced, what they thought they knew & what they were unsure of...

They didn't have all the answers, but they were at least having the conversation!

What conversations are we having with others about Jesus... Is He a taboo topic or is He THE main topic of conversation? **What could be more important?**

- 3) **Be honest about your emotions...** What you are feeling... Jesus knows what it's like to be human. So don't be afraid to show a little emotion!

Cleopas and the other disciple were sad (**vs. 17**)... They were disappointed (**vs. 21**)... they were confused (**21b-24**)... They were excited (**vs. 32**)...

Jesus can handle our questions, doubts, fears, and even our emotions... He offers us answers... real answers... **that meet us in our places of need!**

- 4) **Be willing to go deeper...** Don't let circumstances keep you from going further with Jesus!

Circumstances dictated that their paths would deviate (**vs. 28**), but **“they urged him (Jesus) strongly, saying, ‘Stay with us...’”**

It's easy to let moments with Jesus pass us by... but the Jesus Way is to remain in communion with Him... to abide with Him... and Him with us!

- 5) **The sacraments help us see what we can't see!**

Vs. 30 – “When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him.”

How are you utilizing the gifts of God given to us in the sacraments? **They are a means of grace to help us see Christ and know that He is with us!**

- 6) There will still be times in this broken and fallen world when we will struggle to see Jesus... but **He is always visible to us in the Scriptures!**

Jesus vanished from their sight... But **“Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?”**

We may not be able to be face to face with Jesus today, but His presence with us thru His Word is just as sure & powerful as it was on that road!

What place does the Bible have in your life? If you want more of Jesus, there is where He is found! If you want to see Him... hear Him... know Him... all you have to do is get into this book, and get this book into you!

Jesus Christ a risen Savior... Do you know Him... **Are you walking with Him?**

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- 1) It doesn't matter who you are, or what path you are on, Jesus can _____
_____ Cleopas Who?... A no-name disciple... on the path to Where?

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