

Dig Deeper @Home – “The [Un]Kingdom”

Complement to sermon on 4/21/2019 – “Unveiled”

ICE BREAKER – ask these to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. How did you celebrate Easter when you were younger?
2. When you are really down, do you want to be alone or with others?

MEMORIZE – Luke 4:18

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor

READ – Read Luke 24:1-35

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What does this passage reveal about God? About humanity?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life?
3. Read Luke 24:11, 16. What are the things that can happen in our lives that can cause us not to believe in the truth of the resurrection? What circumstances of life can keep us from recognizing Jesus walking with us through those times?
4. Luke 24:27 says, *“And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.”* We do not know the exact scriptures that Jesus would have pointed the men to. Read the following scriptures which may have been some of the scriptures Jesus interpreted and describe how they point ahead to Jesus’s death and resurrection as the Messiah.
 - a. Genesis 22:1-18
 - b. Zechariah 9:9; 13:7
 - c. Isaiah 53:1-12
 - d. Jeremiah 31:31-34
 - e. Psalm 22
 - f. Psalm 16:10
5. All four of the Gospel accounts of Jesus life include the Resurrection story. Read the other Gospel writers as they record Jesus’s resurrection in Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-8; John 20:1-18 and ask the following questions:
 - a. What is similar in all four gospel stories of Jesus’s resurrection?
 - b. What parts are different? Why?
 - c. How did the meaning of the resurrection of Jesus first “dawn” upon you? What difference does the resurrection make in how you live your life?

Experiential: Sardines

Gather your family and friends and play a game called Sardines. This is hide and seek backwards. Only one person goes to hide and then everyone else goes on their own to seek them out. When one of the seekers finds the hider, they have to join them in their hiding place. Hopefully they didn't hide somewhere cramped, because the seeker has to squeeze into their hiding space with them. All of the seekers have to squish in with the hider until there's only one person seeking. The last person who is still looking for the group loses the game and becomes the hider the next round. Talk about what it felt like to find the person and join them in the cramped space. And what it was like to be the last one who couldn't find the rest. Relate this to the story of Jesus resurrection and what it might have felt like for the two on the road to Emmaus to have Jesus find them and walk along the road with them.

Testimony Time

Share about a time when you were down or going through a particular hard time and in the midst of your struggles you recognized Jesus. What helped you to recognize Jesus in those times?

SING (suggested songs to sing. Use these or any song you might want to sing)

Resurrection Power – by Chris Tomlin <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GiatOlz8h0A>

Christ the Lord is Risen Today – by Charles Wesley - Mennonite Hymnal #179

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Lord Jesus, how often do we fail to recognize your presence. Open the eyes of our hearts to see you in the situations of life we are living. May we hear you as you open the scriptures to us. May we sense your presence at the table when we break bread together with others. Cause our hearts to burn with a desire to know you and to serve you as our risen savior and Lord. Amen.