

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, April 12, 2009

Passage: Luke 24:1-12

Memory Passage: Romans 8:11

Sunday School Question: *From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?*

DAY 1 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT

READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 24:1-7.** Why would the angels wait to reveal themselves until after the women had come to the tomb? What is one of the functions that angels have throughout the bible (Judges 13:19-20; Daniel 9:20-23; Luke 1:11-16, 26-38)?
- (b) Why was it necessary for Jesus to be resurrected in the flesh (Romans 4:24-25; 1Corinthians 15:53-57)?
- (c) What are the things that the women should have remembered? What are the passages in Luke?
- (d) *Think about it:* The angels' asked why they sought the living among the dead. How do we seek "the living amongst the dead" in our lives? What are some of those things that you seek life from, satisfaction from, fulfillment from that are dead?
- (e) *Something to do:* Read Jeremiah 2:11-13. Examine yourself. Is Jesus your fountain of living water or do you have cisterns in your life that you drink out of? Repent and confess to Christ so that you might find your satisfaction in Him.
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 24:1-7. Talk about the importance of the empty tomb and the presence of angels. What does the presence of these two things mean? Where had Jesus already predicted His death and resurrection in Luke? How can we sometimes look for "the living amongst the dead"? Pray that you would walk in the truth of the gospel of Christ today.

DAY 2 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT

READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 24:8-12.** How did the women respond, when the angels told them the good news? What does this say about their faith? How did the apostles at first respond when the women told them the good news?
- (b) What does Peter see when he arrives at the tomb? If the body of Jesus had just been stolen would he had seen this? Why or why not?
- (c) Many people don't believe that Jesus was really resurrected. What about this passage does not make sense if the apostles were just trying to make up a story about Jesus being resurrected?
- (d) *Think about it:* How did the disciples respond to the women's testimony? Knowing that Jesus really was resurrected, what kind of light does this put them in? How can pride get in the way of accepting truth? What does this passage teach us about the willingness to receive truth from others?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 24:8-12. Compare the response of the women to the truth, versus the Apostles' response. Who are supposed to be the "holier" of the two? What does this teach us about the way in which God works? How was Peter's response different? What did he need to see to believe? Why was that unique? Sometimes people need proof to believe. Is proof ever going to be conclusive? Can you as a family make an argument for your faith if someone asked? Talk about ways that you might as a family be prepared to give an account of your faith. (Book recommendation: *The Reason for God* by Timothy Keller)

DAY 3 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT

READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-23.** According to this passage, what were some people saying about the resurrection of the dead? What has Paul spent the previous 12 verses defending?
- (b) Why is our faith in vain if Jesus did not raise from the dead (verse 17)? What is the connection between the resurrection and the freedom from our sins?
- (c) What does Christ's resurrection mean for us? When will the resurrection take place?
- (d) *Think about it:* What is it about the resurrection that gives you hope? Do you *feel* the necessity of the resurrection of Jesus in your daily life?
- (e) *Family:* Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19. What has Paul just finished defending in the previous eleven verses? What is it that people are saying about the resurrection? What would it mean according to Paul if Jesus had not been resurrected? Talk about how Christ's resurrection gives us hope. Thank God that He did raise Jesus from the dead and will return to raise us up.

DAY 4 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT

READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 Corinthians 15:42-49.** How is the state of our own bodies described? Do you see this play out in your own life? How?

(b) What are the qualities of the resurrected body? Who does Paul link the natural and spiritual bodies to? Why is it important for us to no longer have our natural bodies?

(c) *Think about it:* Paul later on goes to say that “death is swallowed up in victory.” Do you fear dying? Why or why not? What would it look like to die believing in the promise of a resurrection? “Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!”

(d) *Family:* Read 1 Corinthians 15:42-49. Talk about the importance of being freed from the natural bodies. Are we going to have flesh and bone bodies though in the resurrection? Why? Where are we going to be in the resurrection? What do you think it will be like to be free from the desires of the flesh? Thank God that He will set us free from these bodies and give us new ones that will be free from the stain of sin.

DAY 5 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT

READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE

(a) Today is Good Friday, the day of Christ’s death on the Cross. We will look at how Christ’s death has given us freedom from sin.

(b) **Read Romans 6:1-14.** How does our Christ’s death affect us? How do we walk in the resurrection of Christ as well?

(c) What power does sin have over those who are in Christ Jesus? What is the basis of that? Does it feel this way always?

(d) *Think about it:* Paul appeals to us to not “let sin reign in our bodies.” But calls us to do what? What does this mean? How might this look? What is the promise that Paul gives at the end of this passage?

(e) *Something to do:* Christ has put to death the deeds of the flesh and given us new life to walk in by the power of the Holy Spirit. Putting to death the flesh is not a one-time thing, but it is something that is continually done on a daily, hourly, moment basis through the power of the Holy Spirit. If you are struggling with sin, ask God to make this passage real in your life. Submit yourself to the Spirit and reckon those desires to sin as dead.

(f) *Family:* Read Romans 6:1-14. Talk about the how the death of Christ and the resurrection of Christ work in our lives today as Christians to give us freedom from sin. How might you gain freedom from sin that is in your life? What is the truth about the power that sin has in our lives? Is putting sin to death a one time thing for us, or must we continually reckon it dead? Ask each other what you struggle to reckon dead and pray for each other that you would walk in the truth of Christ’s death and victory over sin and death.

DAY 6 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT

READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE

(a) *Think back through what you have learned each day this week.* What is something that you learned? What is something that God has placed upon your heart this week? Is there something that you need to share with the Sunday School tomorrow? Write it down and share it tomorrow. Is God dealing with you over a particular sin? Ask for prayer from someone and share with them what God is doing in your life.

DATE: April 12, 2009

PASSAGE: Luke 24:1-12

The Resurrection of the Son of God

“Why do you seek the living among the dead?”