

Resurrection Realities – Reflection Questions (Week 2)

Day 6 Sunday, April 19, 2020

Luke 24:36-49

- 1) Is Easter supposed to be “comfortable” or is it supposed to be “comforting”? Why?

- 2) Were the events of the first Easter “comfortable” for the early disciples? Why or why not?

- 3) What is ironic about the disciples’ reaction to the greeting of Jesus?

- 4) In Luke 24:38, how does Jesus characterize and describe the current demeanor of the disciples?

- 5) At first, they doubted for they thought that they had seen a ghost (24:37), but after the shock wore off and the truth began to settle in what was the unlikely cause of their continued doubts? See Luke 24:41.

- 6) What three things does Jesus offer as the remedy to calm their minds and give them the ‘peace’ that he desires to give? See 24:39; 24:41b-43; 24:45.

- 7) What place should doubts have within the life of a Christian and the church?
 - a. Does Jesus shame any of them for having the doubts in their minds for either their negative doubts (fears and worries) or positive doubts (a feeling that it is too good to be true?)

 - b. Too often we try to hide our doubts, struggles, or questions from other believers. Where should we take our doubts when we are struggle with them?

Resurrection Realities – Reflection Questions (Week 2)

Day 8 Tuesday, April 21, 2020 John 20:24-31

- 1) We often call him 'doubting' Thomas, but...
 - a. ...how do Thomas' words and demands go beyond simple doubts?

 - b. ...what 'information' does Thomas have that would lead him to believe?

 - c. ...what information is Thomas lacking for him to be able to believe?

 - d. ...what then is standing in the way of Thomas believing?

- 2) How does Jesus treat Thomas after his skeptical and harsh demands? Is this how we would typically approach people who have expressed criticism about us?

- 3) What is so startling about Thomas' confession in John 20:28?
 - a. What does it say about the full and true identity of Jesus?

 - b. This revelation may not seem very revolutionary to us, but what did it mean to 1st century Jews that Jesus was "God"?

 - c. Lazarus was raised from the dead and no one mistook him for 'God', what is it about the resurrection of Jesus that leads Thomas to confess that Jesus is more than a prophet, more than a Savior?

- 4) According to Jesus' words in 20:29, who should be considered more blessed, the believers who were able to "see" the events of the first Easter or the believers who have only been able to "hear" about the events of the first Easter? Why?

Resurrection Realities – Reflection Questions (Week 2)

Day 11 Friday, April 24, 2020 John 21:15-19

- 1) Why does Jesus ask Peter three consecutive times if he loves him? John places another hint within the text of his gospel to tie this scene with an earlier event in Peter's life, as both take place over a "charcoal fire" (18:18 and 21:19).

- 2) What had Peter brashly promised on the night before Jesus' death (John 13:36-38; Matt 26:33)? How has Peter's demeanor changed between these two different interactions with Jesus?

- 3) Why do you think that Peter was "hurt" (21:17)?
 - a. Is it ever necessary to share truthful information for the good of the other person, even though it might hurt someone?

 - b. Do we, however, do it?

 - c. Are we any good at it?

 - d. How is the approach of Jesus different?

- 4) By the way that John relays the order of events it appears that he has this conversation with Peter in the midst of the whole group gathered around the fire for breakfast. Why would Jesus handle this reinstatement of Peter as a leader within his followers in a public setting?

- 5) How do we handle our sins that our "public" sins?
 - a. How well do we do at the personal confession of sins?

 - b. How well do we do at personal words of forgiveness/absolution?

