

Finale | John 21:14-25 2021 Spring Toolkit #1

Announcement: Did you know? The Care ministry at church has visitation teams that can give prayer to folks in hospital, rehab, assisted living or in homes. If a group member or their family could benefit, call the church office.

Facilitating Tip: When there are additional passages listed in the questions, you might give slips of paper with the references to group members as they arrive and ask if they would be willing to read at the appropriate time. Give them to folks who are more hesitant to speak up so they can take a small step toward greater participation by simply reading.

My Story

These questions help the group know one another and transition to deeper discussion. Choose one.

- 1) Who has written a handwritten letter in the past month? Who did you write to?
- 2) How have you seen God at work this week? What answers have you seen from prayer?

Digging Deeper

These questions are meant for personal preparation and group discussion. Use all or pick a few.

Read Luke 1:1-4

- 1) What was Luke's profession and who did he travel with? (Col 4:14) How did he get his information according to verse 2?
- 2) How does all this make him suited to write an orderly account?
- 3) Luke shared his knowledge of Jesus with Theophilus by writing. Would you be more comfortable writing a letter or speaking personally to someone about Jesus? Why?
- 4) In what circumstance might writing a letter or making a post be especially effective?

Read Acts 1:1-3

- 5) After the resurrection how did Jesus teach his disciples and prepare them to share the gospel? (Luke 24:25-27, 44-45, John 14:26)?
- 6) How are we taught and prepared in the same way?
- 7) List the convincing proofs of Jesus's bodily resurrection(also see Luke 24:42,43,1Cor. 15:6)
- 8) If you are convinced he is alive, what difference does it make in your life today? In your hope for eternity?
- 9) Luke was "gospel-centered" in his writings according to vs 1. How would you explain that phrase?
- 10) How has God been at work to develop in you a more Gospel-centered life?

Responding to Jesus

These questions are meant for personal reflection before your group prayer time.

1. How has the Lord prepared me to share the gospel message. With whom can I share it?
2. How can I ask the group to pray for me as I respond to this message?

Further Challenge

1. Why do you think Jesus waited with the disciples 40 days after his resurrection before going to heaven?

Sermon Notes: Series: The New Normal
April 11th, Dave Gruhn: "The Why before the What"

- I Jesus is alive!
What difference does it make?
- II "The Gospel" is the center of the message and mission.

Two Rivers' Core Values

Gospel-centered -- Word-dependent -- Spirit-empowered -- Relationally Connected

Next Steps:

Read Acts 1 asking, "God what do you want to teach me?"

Engage by asking questions --

1. "What defines my following?"
2. "How does 'the Good News' shape my story?"