

## THE BIG IDEA: The resurrection moves us.

### The Take-Off

Here we are! After 76 messages covering 24 chapters, over 1100 verses and just under 20,000 words, we've finally made it to the end of Luke's gospel!

Truly, this is the culmination.

And yet, the end of the story is really just the beginning. That's the message of Easter, of the empty tomb!

In fact, Luke's second book is Acts, and it chronicles the rest of the story (we've done that book - look it up)

It shows us the movement of the church after the resurrection, and if I could get you to see anything today, it would be this: **the resurrection moves us.**

- the women moved
- Peter moved
- 2 men on the road to Emmaus moved
- the disciples moved
- ultimately, the church moved and is still moving to this day

God wants us to move - you and me

- some to Jesus for the first time
- some toward an assignment for Jesus

But before we can move forward, we're going to have to move past some things, and there are 3 barriers in Luke 24 that all of us can relate to.

Yes, the resurrection moves us forward, but only when we allow it to move us past

## 1. Our doubts

- Luke 24 has doubt written all over it and I love that God included it
- All of us experience **doubts** - doubts about whether or not something will happen, and then when it does, doubts about whether or not it will last
- All of that is found here
  - vv. 1-7 / the women doubted (that's why they went to take care of a dead body)
  - v. 11 / the disciples doubted
  - v. 12 / Peter doubted
  - vv. 13-24 / the men on the Emmaus road doubted
  - v. 38 / the disciples doubted AGAIN (and this time, while looking at Jesus!)
- The first way the resurrection moved them was past their doubts
- It's the same for us today
- What doubts do you need to move past?
  - That Jesus rose? Atheists have investigated the claim of the resurrection and followed Jesus as a result!
  - No one was ever able to produce the body because there wasn't a body to produce!
  - That God is good? Often we judge God on Friday and forget that Sunday is coming!
- What I want you to see is that Jesus met them all in their doubt and used the truth to lead them out
- A recurring theme we'll see throughout Luke 24 is the opening and explaining of the Scriptures
- Truth is never afraid of doubts or questions, and the truth of the resurrection can move us past them

## 2. Our pain

- While the disciples stood around struggling with their doubt, 2 men left and went for a walk.
- They show us the next barrier that the resurrection needs to move us past: **our pain.**
- Pain - especially the pain of grief and loss - can blind us to the truth.
- These men were talking TO Jesus ABOUT Jesus and then Jesus was talking TO them ABOUT himself and they still didn't recognize him.
- What changed for them? What moved them past their loss and pain?
- The PRESENCE of Jesus - they asked him to stay and he did
  - His presence opened their eyes - it turned a mundane meal into an unforgettable revelation
  - His presence made sense of their experience - so THAT'S WHY our hearts were burning!!
  - His presence moved them - they got up "at once" and went to Jerusalem (v. 33)

- g. The resurrection not only moved them past their pain, but also back to the very place of it
- h. But they were changed - they had hope
- i. [VIDEO / Empty]

### 3. Ourselves

- a. As hard as it can be to move past our doubts and pain, what I want us to see is that God is moving us FROM something TO something
- b. But there is still one more obstacle to move past - **ourselves**.
- c. As they were talking, Jesus appeared to them
- d. They marveled at him, gave food to him, stared at him while he ate it
- e. But Jesus told them not just to witness him, but to go and witness about him.
- f. To move past themselves and see the greater purpose.
- g. In other words, we can sit here and talk about the good old days, or we can turn the page and find something new.
- h. [VIDEO / Up]

#### The Landing

The resurrection moves us!

It reminds us that the story isn't over, and it calls us walk out of the grave, too.

Let's pray.