



SPORTS IN FOCUS

Christ Is Risen
Luke 24 • Lesson Twelve

ZOOM!

READY

- What is the best Easter celebration/worship service you have experienced? What was special about it?
- What surprises you about Jesus' resurrection? What, if any questions do you still have about it?

SET

Context of Luke 24

We've studied Jesus' miraculous birth, amazing life and teachings, and sacrificial death. But the story is not over. The final chapter of Luke's gospel documents Christ's victory over the grave! In this closing section, we also hear Jesus' commission His followers to take the good news to the ends of the earth.

Keys to Text

Resurrection: A central doctrine of the Christian faith is the resurrection. Paul reminded the Corinthian Christians that they already believed in Christ's resurrection, else they would not have been Christians. Because Christ was raised, resurrection from the dead is obviously possible; and, on the other hand, unless men in general can be resurrected, Christ could not have raised. The two resurrections stand or fall together; there could not be one without the other.

GO

Read Luke 24:1-12 "But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." And they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened." What stood out to you in this passage? Why is the resurrection part of the gospel story?

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On November 5, 2011, former Penn State defensive coordinator Jerry Sandusky was arrested on 40 counts relating to sexual abuse of eight young boys. The alleged sexual abuse scandal led to the firing of Penn State's football coach and president. Later that week, Nebraska played Penn State and both teams prayed together at midfield. There was a lot of bad news surrounding the Penn State scandal. Assistant Coach Ron Brown who led the prayer, later said, "What was meant for evil, God can use for good. He referenced Genesis 50:20, "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today." The bad news is that all of us are sinners in need of a savior. But the good news is that God provided a way of salvation so you would not need to face God's wrath. Do you know the good news? Jesus has come, told us about God, taken our punishment, conquered death, and shown us that he can save us from the grave. Pray that God would reveal Himself to you and repent of your sins and believe on Jesus Christ for your salvation