

Let's connect

Blessed is the king who comes  
in the name of the Lord! Peace  
in Heaven and glory in the highest!

Luke 19:38 (NIV)

Connect Groups Study | Study 4. From Crucifixion to Resurrection



## STUDY 4

# FROM CRUCIFIXION TO RESURRECTION

## SCRIPTURES

Luke 23:1-24:8

### Background, context, and observations

Luke was both a disciple of Jesus and a thorough historian. The Luke Acts account of Jesus and the early church intentionally reflects on all that transpired, gathering evidence and recounting God's redemptive story.

The moment of Jesus' crucifixion in Jerusalem was a hotbed of political and social agendas. Jerusalem's population was burgeoning with Jews celebrating the annual Passover. The Roman authorities wanted to distance themselves from the apparent insurgence caused by Jesus. After trying to abdicate responsibility for the decision, Pilate finally yielded to the volume and voice of the crowd, authorising Jesus' death. Luke 23 and 24 captures the very essence of why Jesus, God incarnate, entered into humanity: to come to us and dwell among us, to associate with our pain and suffering, to become the way for our divine relationship to be eternally restored and to show us His masterful design for new life.

### Example Questions for Discussion

1. Read Luke 23 and associate yourself with one or more of the characters referenced. Luke mentions a few new characters such as Barabbas, Simon from Cyrene, the two adjacent crucified criminals and Joseph of Arimathea. And of course, there are others (Pharisees, Herod, Pilate, Barabbas, the soldiers or the crowd). How do you see yourself in the characters recorded in this chapter? What is Holy Spirit revealing to you about your approach to the cross event?
2. It's hard for us to connect with the disciples' feelings on Saturday – after the disappointment of the crucifixion but before the life-and-world-changing resurrection. In some respects, we live out a Saturday reality everyday as we recognise the now and not yet coming Kingdom of God. In what area of your life are you experiencing Saturday – unrealised hopes, disappointments, fears,... yet remembering the hope we have that resurrection Sunday is just around the corner?
3. Read Luke 24:1-8. Everyone loves a good news ending, yet this good news ending was unbelievable. What personal good news story do you need to be reminded of today? Does remembering Jesus' death and celebrating His resurrection influence your day-to-day life? If so, in what ways?

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### Dive Deeper

**Related scriptures:** Genesis 1 & 22; Exodus 19; Jonah 1:17; Hosea 6:1,2; Matthew 12:40; Mark 8:31; Luke 9:22; 24:7; John 2:19-20; Acts 10:40; 1 Corinthians 15.

### For further consideration:

1. For Jesus and the Apostles, the timing of His resurrection has strong theological implications. The three-day timeline matters to the biblical narrative because it is the special day on which God creates new life and activates His covenant with humanity.
2. Consider the Suffering Servant narrative in Isaiah 53 as a prophetic reminder of the solution God had initiated and for which He had planned.

### For further study:

**Why Did Jesus Rise on the Third Day, New life, Covenant and an Ancient Pattern -** Derek Hiebert.

**Joseph of Arimathea, The Extraordinary Calling of Ordinary People -** Ken Costa

**The Bible Project: Luke/Acts series, Episode 5**

<https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/gospel-luke-5/>

*With thanks to Liam from Greater Springfield*

### Connect

Take time to pray together as you consider Jesus and your expectations as we approach Easter

### Grow

40 days deeper devotional - resource ideas

[crossequalslove.com](http://crossequalslove.com)

### Serve

CityCare

