

Remnant Life Church
April 30, 2017
Restoration After the Resurrection
Luke 24:13-36

- The story of the Jesus' resurrection does not end on that Sunday morning
- Jesus was going to dispel the most popular accounts being circulated as to why He was not in the tomb
 - His disciples took Him
 - They went to the wrong tomb
 - Those who had Him killed came and took the body
- Jesus disproved all of that by appearing to nearly 600 people, in a variety of settings, in a variety of locations, in a time period that lasted 40 days or nearly 6 weeks
 - The number 40 used over 100 times in the Bible
 - Most often used as a period of testing or purification
 - Moses lived for 40 years in Egypt and then 40 years in Midian before God brought him back to Egypt (**Acts 7:23, 30; Ex 7:7**)
 - Moses on the Mt Sinai for 40 days and nights (**Ex 24:18**)
 - The spies were sent into Canaan for 40 days (**Num 13:25**)
 - The Israelites wandered in the desert for 40 years (**Num 114:33-34**)
 - Jonah prophesied to Nineveh for 40 days (**Jon 3:4**)
 - Jesus prophetically told His disciples that the temple would be destroyed and 40 years later the Romans did just that
 - Two specific time periods of 40 days in Jesus' life
 - The first was at the beginning of His ministry - 40 days in the desert and was a period of temptation (**Matt 4:2**)
 - The second was at the end of his ministry with 40 days following His resurrection and was a period of triumph
- Let's look at one of those appearances

READ – LUKE 24:13-36

- The setting
 - This occurs on the Sunday of Jesus' resurrection later in the day
 - These two men – disciples one named Cleopas and the other unnamed – unlikely one of the 11 remaining but perhaps Luke
 - Walking toward the town of Emmaus about 7 miles from Jerusalem
 - We don't know the reason they are going
 - Getting out of town for safety?
 - Did they have family there?
 - Was there no plan on their minds other than to just let things cool down?
 - Luke tells us that they were kept from recognizing Jesus – WHY?

- I believe Jesus wanted them not to talk (asking questions, etc...) so that He could talk with them and teach them about what His life's meaning was – WHY?
 - So they could tell others!
- There was another appearance that was very powerful and it was done for the sake of one man that day but is just as powerful for us today

READ – John 21:15-23

- Jesus has appeared to the disciples, they've eaten a meal together, and then He turns all of his attention to Peter
- It is not hard to imagine how Peter is feeling
 - Sitting as far away from Jesus as he can
 - Living with tremendous anguish and guilt over what he had done
 - He not only denied Jesus but he did it only a few hours after swearing to Jesus he would never do it!
 - He, along with the other disciples, did not stay with Jesus (only John)
 - Now his guilt is compounded - he knows he should have believed Jesus because everything he said has been proven true
- Guilt is an exceptionally powerful emotion that impacts every area of our lives It also causes us to rationalize our actions to the extreme
 - Insurance companies hear the best rationalizations. Here are a few explanations people have actually given when filling out their accident reports.
 - Coming home, I drove to the wrong house and collided with a tree that I don't have.
 - I pulled away from the shoulder of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law and then drove into the ditch.
 - In my attempt to kill a fly, I drove into a telephone pole.
 - The pedestrian had no idea of which way to jump so I ran over him.”
 - We may laugh at those but guilt can be crippling in a person's life
 - Guilt is that blaring siren and flashing red light of our conscious that tells us when we have really messed up
 - It can enslave and trap us in a time and place that follows us the rest of our lives
 - Guilt caused Adam and Eve to hide from God in the garden (**Gen 3:10**)
 - David said the guilt of his sin of his adulterous affair with Bathsheba make his bones waste away in silence (**Ps 32:3**)
 - It caused Isaiah to cry out woe is me a man of unclean lips (**Isa 6:5**)
 - Guilt caused the men ready to stone the woman caught in adultery to drop their stones and turn away (**John 8:3-11**)
- Guilt is a crushing weight sitting in your heart many times making you desperate to relieve it

- Gil Hodges managed the Washington Senators from 1963-1967, he discovered four of his players had broken curfew the previous night. Immediately, he called a team meeting and said, "I know who you are but I don't wish to embarrass you. You know the rules; you will each be fined \$100. I have placed a cigar box on my desk. I expect the four of you who broke curfew to put your money in the box by 3:00 p.m." At the end of the day, Hodges found \$700 in his cigar box! What he discovered was that people will readily take advantage of an opportunity to get rid of their guilt.
- Notice several things that take place during this time of interaction with Jesus all designed specifically for Peter
 - Jesus calls him Simon ([John 21:15](#))
 - Now Jesus Himself had renamed him Cephas or Peter
 - Jesus was saying you acted in your old nature so I will refer to you as that man
 - I'll call you by the name you had before you knew me because that is exactly what you told the people who confronted you – I don't know the man!
 - Then Jesus appears to ask Peter the same question over and over ([John 21:15-17](#))
 - In reality Jesus and Peter are using two different words
 - In the original Greek Jesus is using the word agapo which describes God's love – unconditional
 - Peter is using the word phileo which means friendship
 - The last time Jesus uses the word phileo as well and Peter realizes what he has been saying
 - Jesus was asking do you love me and Peter was answering yes I like you
- This morning the very simple question is what kind of love do you show?
 - Is your love for God, for your family, those who mean the most to you, or even other Christians like God's love, unconditional?
 - Or do you love with the side note, the "love" the world exhibits – what have you done for me lately?
- The other reason Jesus wanted this time with Peter was to make sure he knew that he had been forgiven
 - Jesus could have taken him aside in private
 - He did it around all the others just as Peter had denied Him – in full view of everyone there
 - Not only was that intended to teach Peter a lesson but to restore him fully to what God was going to call him to do
- He would be viewed as the leader of the disciples until they went their own ways to spread the Gospel
 - He would perform great miracles
 - He would preach the sermon at Pentecost

- He would be called to be crucified but upside down because he finally came to realize that he was not what was most important it was being a servant to the call of God

- Any of us could be in place of Peter at that table with Jesus
 - We all have areas of our lives that need to be covered by the blood
 - Each of us has been forgiven just as Peter was
 - And each of us will be called on to sacrifice our lives to Jesus in some way if our lives have been given over to Him.