

Growth Group Guide: Luke 24

Bible Version: Christian Standard Bible (CSB)

SCRIPTURE READING QUESTIONS

Before diving into the group discussion, consider these four questions as you read the text:

- **What does this passage say about God, who He is, and what He does (Father, Son, and Spirit)?**
- **What does this passage teach me about me?**
- **What comfort/challenge can I take away from this passage?**
- **How will I respond or live differently because of what I've read?**

PART 1: THE FOUNDATION

Loving God's People (The Community Lens)

- After the resurrection, the disciples gather in bewilderment and joy, recognizing Jesus as He breaks bread with them. Our "One New Family" identity is anchored in the shared reality of the risen Christ appearing in our midst.
- **Key Question:** "How are you pursuing authentic community with other believers right now?"
- **Key Question:** "What gets in the way of community with other believers?"

Looking to God's Word (The Truth Lens)

- Our "Wealth in Christ" is confirmed as Jesus opens the Scriptures, showing how the Law, Prophets, and Psalms all point to Him. We are no longer "foolish and slow of heart" when we see the Truth of the Gospel fulfilled in His suffering and glory.
- **Key Question:** "How is God's Word challenging you?"
- **Key Question:** "What can you do to prioritize God's Word?"

PART 2: THE WALK

Listening to God's Voice (The Prayer Lens)

- Walking in the Spirit is like the road to Emmaus—Jesus walks with us even when our eyes are prevented from recognizing Him. Responding to His leading means paying attention to the "burning hearts" we feel when He speaks to us.
- **Key Question:** "How is God directing you?"
- **Key Question:** "What do you need to quiet in your life to hear God better?"

Living Sent (The Mission Lens)

- Mission is moving from "seating capacity to sending capacity" as the disciples are told they are "witnesses of these things". We identify everyday opportunities to share the Gospel as we wait for the "power from on high" to carry the message to all nations.
- **Key Question:** "What everyday opportunity have you used to point someone to Jesus?"
- **Key Question:** "What opportunities did you miss to tell someone about Jesus?"

GROUP PRAYER & SUMMARY

- **Closing Thought:** Luke 24 moves from the empty tomb to the burning heart and the open mind, proving that the resurrected Jesus is the fulfillment of all God's promises.
- **Final Action:** Spend time this week "re-reading" a difficult circumstance in your life through the lens of the resurrection, asking God to show you His presence where you previously saw only loss.

PAGE 3: FACILITATOR CHEAT SHEET

The Structural Lens: The Theological Framework

- **Indicative vs. Imperative:** The **Indicative** is the bodily resurrection of Jesus—it is a finished, historical fact (v. 39). The **Imperative** is for the disciples to "repent" and "wait" for the promise of the Father (v. 47-49).
- Note the "Emmaus Structure": Jesus starts with their *despair*, moves to the *Word*, and ends with *worship*.

Facilitation Tips

- If the group gets stuck on the "mechanics" of how the disciples didn't recognize Jesus, redirect them to the *remedy*: Jesus opened the Scriptures to them.
- If the conversation feels overly academic, ask: "When was the last time your heart 'burned' because of a truth from God's Word?"

Leader Insights: The Four Lead Practices

- **Community:** Insight: Jesus appears to the group *together*. Our faith is strengthened when we share our "witness" of what God is doing with one another.
- **Truth:** Insight: Jesus didn't just give them a miracle; He gave them a Bible study. Truth is the anchor for our emotional experiences.
- **Prayer:** Insight: The disciples' response to the ascension was "continual praise in the temple". Prayer is the natural byproduct of a heart that has truly seen the risen Lord.
- **Mission:** Insight: We are "witnesses," not "lawyers". Our mission is simply to tell what we have seen and heard of Jesus's work in our lives.