

Reveal



Luke 24



In this final session the young people will explore how the risen Jesus was revealed to his followers and how their understanding of him changed. As Jesus walked with them, explained the Scriptures and spoke peace into their fear, the disciples began to see more clearly who he was. As Luke brings his Gospel to a close, the young people are invited to reflect on what they have discovered about Jesus and what it means to live with that new understanding.

You will need:

- Paper and pens
- Bibles
- Five large letters spelling JESUS



Beat

Say:

Over the past few weeks we've been exploring the life of Jesus through the Gospel of Luke, following the story from the promises surrounding his birth through his teaching and miracles to the events of the first Easter.

In our first session we began with a quiz about Luke's Gospel. At the time, some of the questions may have been difficult, but since then we've walked through much of the story together.

Today we're going to return to that same quiz and see how much of Luke's Gospel you recognise now.

Leader's notes:

You can organise the group in whatever way works best for your setting. This could be done as a whole-group quiz, in small teams or individually. Reassure the group that this isn't a test and that guessing is absolutely fine.

The Gospel of Luke Quiz

1. Who was the Gospel of Luke written for?
 - a) Timothy
 - b) Theophilus**
 - c) Peter
2. At Jesus' baptism, what does the voice from Heaven say about him?
 - a) 'This is my anointed one'
 - b) 'You will lead my people'
 - c) 'You are my Son, whom I love'**
3. In Luke 5, what shocks people when Jesus heals the paralysed man?
 - a) He forgives his sins**
 - b) He heals him on the Sabbath
 - c) He touches him
4. When Jesus asks his disciples who they think he is, what does Peter say?
 - a) A great teacher
 - b) A prophet like Elijah
 - c) God's Messiah**
5. In Luke 9, what major decision does Jesus make about where he is going?
 - a) He returns to Galilee
 - b) He travels to Rome
 - c) He sets his face toward Jerusalem**
6. Which parable in Luke shows that outsiders are welcomed in God's Kingdom?
 - a) The Lost Coin
 - b) The Good Samaritan**
 - c) The Wise and Foolish Builders
7. How do the crowds respond when Jesus enters Jerusalem on Palm Sunday?
 - a) They welcome him as a teacher
 - b) They treat him with suspicion
 - c) They praise him as king**
8. What does Jesus do when he reaches the Temple?
 - a) He teaches the people
 - b) He confronts corruption**
 - c) He spends time praying alone
9. At the Last Supper, what does Jesus say the bread and wine represent?
 - a) God's law and promises
 - b) His body and blood, given for others**
 - c) A sign of God's covenant with Israel

10. How does Jesus respond to violence when he is arrested?
- a) He tells his disciples to fight
 - b) He runs away
 - c) **He refuses violence and heals his enemy**
11. Where do two disciples meet the risen Jesus without recognising him at first?
- a) In the Temple
 - b) **On the road to Emmaus**
 - c) By the Sea of Galilee
12. How does Luke end his Gospel?
- a) With Jesus appearing to Thomas
 - b) **With Jesus blessing his followers and ascending**
 - c) With the empty tomb



Say:

In the last session we followed the events of the first Easter and saw how Jesus willingly gave his life on the cross. We also saw how the women who came to the tomb discovered that it was empty and heard the message that Jesus had risen.

Even so, the disciples were still confused. They had seen Jesus die and they did not yet understand what had really happened.

Luke's Gospel does not end with the empty tomb. In the final chapter, Luke shows how the risen Jesus begins to reveal himself to his followers. As we watch this clip, notice how the disciples struggle to understand what has happened and how their understanding begins to change.

Watch:

The Resurrection of Jesus: Luke 24 – Bible Project (stop at 4:55)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vb24Lk1Oh5M

Say:

The clip highlights something important in Luke's final chapter. Even after the resurrection, the disciples did not immediately understand what had happened. Luke shows how Jesus' identity is gradually revealed to his followers.

One of the first stories Luke tells takes place on the road to a village called Emmaus.

Leader's notes:

Encourage volunteers to read the Scripture passages used throughout this section.

Read:

¹³ Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶ but they were kept from recognising him. ¹⁷ He asked them, 'What are you discussing together as you walk along?' They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸ One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, 'Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?' ¹⁹ 'What things?' he asked. 'About Jesus of Nazareth,' they replied. 'He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰ The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹ but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²² In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³ but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴ Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.'

– (Luke 24:13–24)

Ask:

- Try to place yourself in the position of the disciples walking along the road to Emmaus. What were they discussing? How were they feeling?
- What do the two followers say they had hoped Jesus would do?
- Why did hope seem lost for them?

Say:

The two followers hoped that Jesus would rescue Israel, but instead they had seen him crucified. Reports of an empty tomb only added to their confusion.

As they walked along the road, Jesus joined them, but they did not recognise him. Before revealing who he was, Jesus began by explaining the Scriptures and showing how the story of God's people had always been pointing toward the Messiah.

Ask:

- Why do you think Jesus explained the Scriptures before revealing who he was?

Say:

Later that evening, the two followers invited Jesus to stay and eat with them.

Read:

³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognised him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³² They asked each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?'

– (Luke 24:30–32)

Ask:

- What finally helped the disciples to recognise Jesus?
- Why do you think Luke included this moment during a meal?

Say:

In Luke's Gospel, meals often become places where something important is revealed. Here it is during the familiar act of breaking bread that the disciples finally recognise Jesus.

Luke shows that understanding did not come all at once. As Jesus walked with them and explained the Scriptures, their understanding slowly began to grow until their eyes were finally opened.

The two followers immediately returned to Jerusalem to share what had happened.

Read:

³³ They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together ³⁴ and saying, 'It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' ³⁵ Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognised by them when he broke the bread.

³⁶ While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'

³⁷ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, 'Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.'

— (Luke 24:33-36)

Ask:

How did the disciples react when Jesus suddenly appeared among them?

What does this moment reveal about how difficult it was for the disciples to understand the resurrection?

Say:

The disciples were frightened and unsure what they were seeing. Jesus reassured them by showing them his hands and feet, and he even ate food with them.

Read:

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, 'This is what is written: the Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'

— (Luke 24:45-49)

Ask:

- What does Jesus reveal about why the Messiah had to suffer and rise again?
- What does Jesus say will now happen because of his death and resurrection?
- What role does Jesus give his disciples in this moment?

Say:

In this moment, Jesus helped the disciples understand what the events of the cross and resurrection really meant. What once seemed like failure is revealed to be part of God's plan. The Messiah had to suffer and rise again so that forgiveness could be offered to all people.

Jesus also revealed that the story was not ending here. The disciples were now witnesses to what had happened, and they would be sent to share this message with others. Luke's Gospel ends with Jesus leading his followers outside the city.

Read:

⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

– (Luke 24:50–53)

Ask:

How have the disciples changed from the beginning of Luke 24 to the end of the chapter?

Say:

The disciples worshipped Jesus and returned to Jerusalem filled with joy. Although our journey through the book of Luke has come to an end, the story does not end here. Luke continues the story in the Book of Acts, where the disciples receive the Holy Spirit and begin sharing the good news of Jesus with the world.

 **Bridge****Ask:**

Why do you think Luke shows the disciples slowly coming to understand who Jesus is, rather than recognising everything straight away?

Sound Check

Leader's notes:

Before the session, prepare five large letters that spell JESUS and place them around the room or on separate sheets of paper. If possible, print or draw the letters large enough for the young people to write inside them.

Divide the group into small teams and give each team a Bible and some pens. Invite them to skim through the Gospel of Luke and look for moments that reveal something about who Jesus is. They might notice things about the way Jesus taught, the people he welcomed, the miracles he performed, the authority he showed, the way he forgave people or his willingness to give his life.

Ask each group to write words, phrases, pictures or Bible references inside their letter that describe what Luke's Gospel reveals about Jesus.

When the groups have finished, bring the letters together to spell JESUS and briefly look at what has been written. You may wish to display the completed letters somewhere in the church as a reminder of what the group has discovered about Jesus through Luke's Gospel.

Ask:

- As you look at everything that has been written, what does Luke's Gospel reveal about who Jesus is?

Bridge

Ask:

Which part of Luke's Gospel would you like to explore in more depth? What steps could you take to make that happen?



Selah

Say:

Over the past few weeks, we have followed the story of Jesus through Luke's Gospel. We have seen how people encountered him, how his teaching challenged and transformed lives and how the events of Easter revealed who he truly is.

In our Sound Check activity we looked back through Luke's Gospel and noticed some of the things it reveals about Jesus.

As we listen to this song, take a few quiet moments to reflect on what you have discovered during this series.

You might want to think about these questions:

- What have you discovered about who Jesus is?
- Which moment in Luke's Gospel has stood out to you the most?
- As you have explored Luke's Gospel, what has changed the way you think about Jesus?

Watch:

'What A Beautiful Name' (Lyric Video) – Hillsong Worship (5:41)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=r5L6QIAH3L4

After a moment of reflection, invite the young people to share their responses to the questions and spend some time praying together.



Say:

In a piece of music, the coda brings the different aspects of the melody, harmonies and bassline to a conclusion. It pulls together the different themes and often, but not always, brings resolution to a piece of music.

Ask:

- As you reflect on everything you have learned today, what is your coda?
- What is the one thing you will take away from our walk through Luke's Gospel?

Leader's notes:

Give the young people a moment to think about your question and briefly share their coda with the group before the session comes to an end.

