

Simply Jesus

The Life and Ministry of God's Son

Inductive: Lesson 28

Introduction

"He is not here, but is risen!" So spoke the angels from the empty tomb to Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary, the mother of James and other of the women who had returned the next day to finish preparing the body with spices and fragrant oils (Luke 24). And the angels said to the women, "Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.'" And they remembered His words. So they returned from the tomb and told the news to the disciples, but their words fell on deaf ears, seeming like idle tales, and they did not believe them. But still, upon hearing the news, Peter and John ran to the tomb to see for themselves. John outran Peter arriving first and looking in saw the linen cloths lying there; and he believed (John 20). Peter went into the tomb, scrutinized the folded handkerchief and the placement of the linen cloths; then they went away, returning to their own homes.

Mary stood outside the tomb weeping and was asked by the angels, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She wanted to know the whereabouts of the body so she could take Him away. As she turned, she saw a man who spoke her name, "Mary!" She recognized it was Jesus. Standing there before Him, Mary fully realized that love, faith, and hope could conquer death; and she became the first witness to the other disciples that Jesus Christ was indeed alive!

After that, Jesus made a number of group appearances, fulfilling His promises to replace the disciples' grief with rejoicing and their doubt and confusion with the Holy Spirit.

Did you know ~

Jesus had fulfilled His mission, and now He was about to send His followers out to begin theirs. The reception of the Holy Spirit and the Lord's peace mentioned in John 20:21–23 was temporary. It was not the fulfillment of Christ's prayer and promise to the disciples on the night before His crucifixion (John 14–16). That fulfillment would occur fifty days later on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2). Here they received what has been described as a "prechurch age filling" of the Spirit so they could fully perceive and understand the Lord's instructions to them.

Open your Bible and lesson each day by beginning with a word of prayer.

Up Close ~

The chart below represents a reader's guide to the contents of this week's lesson. The topical teachings and/or events covered are followed by the primary scriptural text as well as the supportive parallel passages. You will be able to receive and grasp a well-rounded picture of the story narrative in the Gospel harmony by reading every passage. However, using the bolded text as your point of reference (your anchor text) will allow you to determine the facts, lessons, and personal applications necessary to formulate your own conclusions.

<u>Teaching / Event</u>	<u>Scripture Text</u>	<u>Parallel Passages</u>
Appearances of the Risen Lord: Mary; Disciples; Thomas	John 20:1–29	
Two Travelers on Road to Emmaus	Luke 24:13–35	
Breakfast by the Sea: Jesus Appears to Seven Disciples	John 21:1–19	
Restores Peter		
Jesus Gives Great Commission	Mark 16:14–18	Matt. 28: 16–20; Luke 24:36–49
Ascends into Heaven	Mark 16:19-20	

First Impressions: Group Discussion

Reflect for a moment on the passages you have just read.

Respond by recording your first impressions from your initial reading of the text. Be prepared to share one of your impressions with your discussion group.

Heartbeat: Matthew 28:18–20 NKJV (Memory verse)

(Write it out once in the space below. **Practice it each time** you open your lesson.)

“And Jesus came and spoke to them saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’ Amen.”

(Read the entire passage below in your Bible, inductively analyzing the verses indicated.)

John 20:1–29

Appearances of the Risen Lord

11 But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept
she stooped down and looked into the tomb.

12 And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet,
where the body of Jesus had lain.

13 Then they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them,
“Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.”

14 Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there,
and did not know that it was Jesus.

15 Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?”
She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, “Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me
where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away.”

16 Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to Him, “Rabboni!” (which is to say, Teacher).

17 Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father;
but go to My brethren and say to them, ‘I am ascending to My Father and your Father,
and to My God and your God.’”

18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord,
and that He had spoken these things to her.

19 Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week,
when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews,
Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

20 When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side.
Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

21 So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”

22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them;

if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.

24 Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

25 The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord."

So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

26 And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them.

Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!"

27 Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it in into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."

28 And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

29 Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed.

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

(Read the entire passage below in your Bible, inductively analyzing the verses indicated.)

Luke 24:13–35

Two Travelers on the Road to Emmaus

25 Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!

26 Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?"

27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

28 Then they drew near to the village where they were going, and He indicated that He would have gone farther.

29 But they constrained Him, saying, "Abide with us, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent." And He went in to stay with them.

30 Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread,

blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.

31 Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight.

32 And they said to one another, "Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?"

33 So they rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together,

34 saying, "The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!"

35 And they told about the things that had happened on the road, and how He was known to them in the breaking of bread.

(Read the entire passage below in your Bible, inductively analyzing the verses indicated.)

John 21:1–19

Breakfast by the Sea

15 So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?"

He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You."

He said to him, "Feed My lambs."

16 He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?"

He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You."

He said to him, "Tend My sheep."

17 He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?"

Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?"

And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."

Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep.

Observation: Look!

Pray. Read the Bible passage several times, trying to get a big picture of what is going on.

Left Column (Facts): Following the writer in the order he tells the story, briefly describe who is involved, what is happening, when and where the events are taking place.

Right Column (Observations): Look closely to observe details. Some questions you may ask:

- What do you know about the people involved in the story? What questions does the story raise? What sources of conflict do you see? What does Jesus identify as true and important to life?
- Put yourself in the Biblical character's shoes. What were his ambitions? How did the character relate to others or to God? What problem did he think he faced? Did Jesus identify a different problem in his life? What did he discover about God? How did he respond?
- Are there any words that you are not familiar with? Look up the definition.
- Are there words or phrases that are repeated or emphasized? Why are they key?
- Identify comparisons, such as "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven..." What do you know about leaven (yeast)? Identify contrasts, such as "You have heard it said...but I say to you..."
- Extra: Record information you may find in Bible dictionaries, maps, handbooks, or encyclopedias. Understanding the culture/time in which Jesus lived will help you discover the meaning of the text.

John 20:11–29

Appearances of the Risen Lord

What does it say? (Facts from passage)

What do I see? (Personal research/observations)

Luke 24:25–35

Two Travelers on the Road to Emmaus

What does it say? (Facts from passage)

What do I see? (Personal research/observations)

John 21:15–19

Breakfast by the Sea

What does it say? (Facts from passage)

What do I see? (Personal research/observations)

Mark 16:14–20

Jesus Gives the Great Commission
Ascends into Heaven

What does it say? (Facts from passage)

What do I see? (Personal research/observations)

Interpretation: What does it mean?

Pray. The more time you take to observe the passage, the more you will have a basis for understanding what God's Word means. Interpretation **always** seeks to answer the questions, "What was God saying to the original audience?" and then, "How does that same truth relate to life today?" Asking yourself questions will help you see the spiritual lesson in the text: What does this teach me is true about God? What does it teach me is true about mankind? Is there a command to obey? Is there a promise to claim? Is there a condition to the promise? Is there an example I should follow or avoid? A spiritual lesson is a timeless truth that points to God and speaks to the heart of man. Stating the lesson in a sentence of 10 words or less will help you keep it simple and memorable.

Application: How does it apply to me? Pray. Practicing Biblical truth day-to-day is the only way to grow in Christ and reflect the glory of God. To apply the spiritual lesson you have learned from the text, you have to take deliberate action. Take the time to examine yourself, and ask: Does this spiritual lesson point out error in my thoughts about God? Does it point to error in my attitude or actions? How does this lesson relate to my home life, my work, my relationships, how I spend my time, etc.? What change is required? What practical steps will I take to make that change? Write your application in the form of a question to help make it personal.

John 20:11–29

Lesson:

Application: _____

Luke 24:25–35

Lesson:

Application: _____

John 21:15–19

Lesson:

Application: _____

Mark 16:14–20

Lesson:

Application: _____

Behold & Be Transformed

What did you see as you beheld God's Son?

How does beholding (looking upon) Him, motivate you to change your thoughts, habit, attitude, speech or actions?

Pause . . . What is the most significant lesson you have learned this week?
