

Belmont Exeter House Group Notes

w/c 19th April 2026

Matters Arising – Seeing is believing Luke 24:13 - 35

Background

The resurrection is an historical event out of which matters arise. It is not an abstract theological idea. In some ways, the challenge for every Christian since has been to work out what it means to live in a world in which Jesus is risen, in which Jesus is alive! Dietrich Bonhoeffer puts it like this, "He [Jesus] has forced open a door that has been locked since the death of the first man. He has met, fought, and beaten the King of Death. Everything is different because He has done so." Because of the resurrection, our faith is not a dutiful and cumbersome memorial, but a life-giving and life-affirming relationship.

Each of these stories presents people wrestling with how life has changed because they have discovered that Jesus is alive and what it means. Our mission statement, 'Sharing the Story and Living the Life' is precisely the outworking of these matters arising as the disciples we reflect on the significance and impact of the resurrection.

This study follows the sermon on 19th April. If you weren't able to be at the service, you can watch on YouTube (<https://youtube.com/belmontexeter>) or listen on the Belmont website (<http://belmontexeter.church/talks>)

The discussion outline below is a guide only. Please take time to pray and prepare the discussion for your group. Some resources you may find helpful to supplement these notes are:

BIG IDEA: Jesus resurrection brings the promises of the Old Testament to life and gives confidence in our own faith in Him.

WAY IN: Share your joys and questions about Easter. What do you love about Easter? What do you find puzzling?

Spend a short time in praise and prayer in response to this discussion.

READ: Luke 24 : 13 - 27

DIG IN

Describe the mood and concerns thoughts of the two disciples. What were their questions and hopes?

Why is it important to Luke to root the resurrection in the promises of the Old Testament?

Which Old Testament passages would you use to explain the events and meaning of Easter?

These passages were the same as the ones that made their hearts burn as Jesus opened the Scriptures. Pause and give thanks for the fulfilment and blessings these passages promise.

Read Luke 24:28 - 35

Who did the two friends think Jesus had been, hoped he would be and then come to see who he was?

Why is the physicality of the resurrection important? What does that say about our bodies, the future creation? (A look at 1 Corinthians 15:35 forwards may help expand this idea)

LIVE IT

Jesus is recognised when he gave thanks and broke bread. These two may have been with Jesus at the feeding of the 5000 when Luke uses the same phrase (Luke 9:16). They may have seen Jesus give thanks many times. In this familiar moment they saw him afresh. In what ways is the experience of the two disciples also our experience?

Where are the places in our lives where we've been unaware of Jesus alongside but then been nudged to 'see' him there?

Looking back to our Disciple / Practising the Way series (Summer 2025), what habits have you developed, or are developing to be able to recognise and listen to Jesus alongside you in life? How can we help each other in this?

PRAY IT IN

Pray for someone you know to see that Jesus is more than a profound teacher, but is in fact the king who now rules. Pray for opportunities in our June outreach (JoyFest and community prayer) to be able to explain, demonstrate this.

Pray for confidence to live out the good news that Jesus is king and he has given us his Spirit to live this new life.