

Belmont Exeter House Group Notes

w/c 3rd May 2026

Matters Arising – Re-boot John 21: 1 - 25

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 disciples we reflect on the significance and impact of the resurrection.

This study follows the sermon on 3rd May. 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:

The WAY IN question may be best approached by sharing it with your group ahead of the meeting so people can prepare rather than be put on the spot.

BIG IDEA: The resurrection of Jesus means a new start in mission and service. What will we do with that offer?

WAY IN: Share examples of 'second chances' and forgiveness in your own lives. How did it feel to be able to restart, to be restored?

Pray

READ: John 21 : 1 - 14

DIG IN

The epilogue to John's gospel contains several echoes from earlier in his gospel, e.g. the call of the first disciples, (John 1), the feeding of the 5000 and Jesus' walking on the water (John 6). This is a story about a fresh call to follow Jesus.

What steps in the story moved the disciples from 'not realising it was Jesus' (v4) to 'knowing it was the Lord' (v12)?

How does John remind us of the physical reality of Jesus? Why is this important?
(1 Corinthians 15:35 – 49 is Paul's discussion of the nature of the raised life. New creation is a physical reality in which Christ rules. It is not a vague spiritual state)

Read John 21 : 15 - 25

Jesus singles out Peter to speak with him. Peter had rashly promised to be faithful and then had failed miserably when the pressure came on. According to Luke 22v 61, Jesus had witnessed that first hand.

What is Jesus' focus in this conversation with Peter? What does the sequence of the conversation indicate as the root of mission and service?

Read **1 Peter 5 v 1 – 9** and list the lessons that Peter has learned and is passing on to the early church.

LIVE IT

What lessons of mission and service have we learned / do we need to hold on to?

What strengthens us as we follow Jesus on our Frontlines? (Frontlines are the places where we encounter everyday life in a world that more often than not doesn't serve the Lord)

PRAY IT IN

Take a look at **1 Peter 5: 8 – 11** and use this as a basis of prayer for each other. Are there specific areas of life you need help to be alert. Self-controlled? Are there pressures you're facing where you need strength and encouragement. Share these concerns, pray for each and follow up in future weeks.