



Sermon Study Guide for May 29, 2022

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: The disciples witnessed one of the most amazing moments in the life of Jesus. They were witnesses to Jesus' public ministry, and Jesus had finally opened their minds to understand the scriptures. As Jesus ascends to heaven, He is only gone for some time.

Getting Started: (sharing with each other)

1. When you think of Jesus' ascension, what do you think of? What images come to mind when thinking about the ascension of our Lord?
2. Have you ever been a witness to something incredible? What was it, and how did it feel to be a witness of such a special event?

In the Word: Luke 24:44-53

3. What is the significance of Jesus opening the minds of the disciples? Why is it now that they can finally, fully and truly understand the scriptures?
4. "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." Jesus is talking about the Holy Spirit here. Why is that significant for the disciples, but also for us?
5. **Read Acts 1:1-11** Acts is a sort of continuation of Luke's Gospel. Why do the disciples ask about Jesus restoring the kingdom to Israel? What is their purpose in asking?
6. What comfort is there in Jesus telling his disciples, "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority?"

7. What is Jesus' purpose in telling the disciples they would be His witnesses in such a distinct order? (Jerusalem and in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth?)

8. The men dressed in white, presumably two angels, tell the disciples that how they see Jesus ascending is how He will come back. When is that day? And what is the significance of Jesus return on that day?

Putting it all Together (what do we believe or do as disciples?)

9. We may not be first hand witnesses of the life of Jesus or the ascension, but how can we still be those witnesses to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth?

10. As Jesus ascends into Heaven, he promises the disciples that they will receive the Holy Spirit. They will receive the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. We receive the Holy Spirit through the waters of Baptism. How can we share the love of Christ with the fervor of the disciples?

Prayer: Thank God for sending His son into this world, that he might die for our sins, rise from the dead to conquer death, and save us from all of our sins. Thank Jesus for coming into this earth, and showing His true authority as fully God and fully man, by living that perfect life that we could not. Thank the Holy Spirit that He dwells within us, and works that saving faith not only in our own lives, but in the lives of all those that believe.

Next Week: The Holy Spirit is what leads and drives the mission of God to reconcile and redeem the world to Himself by pointing people to Jesus. The disciples experienced just what Jesus promised when they received power from on high to proclaim the good news to all nations.