



Sunday Sermon Discussion Outline

Pastor Philip Thomas, April 12, 2020 (Resurrection Sunday)
Luke 24:1-12 – Where Are We Looking?

We Learn:

Throughout the Bible we read of God asking questions. In fact, in the very beginning, in Genesis 3, we find the all-knowing, omniscient, creator God asking His creation, “Adam, where are you?” Why did God question Adam, Job, Elijah, or the children of Israel? Why did Jesus ask those coming to him for help what they wanted from Him? Why did Jesus so often answer a question with a question?

God doesn’t ask us questions because He doesn’t know the answer or because He’s toying with us. God asks us questions to reveal himself, to provoke us to think, to draw us out, to get us to consider our motivations and our actions, to take the right action by obeying Him, and to follow Him as a disciple. Often in our desire to hear from God we tend to focus on God’s statements rather than his questions. Douglas Estes, in his book *The Questions of Jesus in John* (Leiden: Brill, 2013), states, “Most readers of the gospels read them (the gospels) to see what Jesus will *say*, not to see what Jesus will *ask*.” We look for the pat answer, the promise, the statement, that we can then readily apply to our situation. We don’t want to grapple with questions. But what do the questions of God draw out of us? Invariably the questions of God require *actions* not *answers*; *decisions* not *debate*.

The angels asked the women at the tomb, “Why do you look for the living among the dead?” The questions we have to consider are:

- What are we looking for?
 - What are the top 5 things you are seeking in life? Why?
- Why are we looking for it?
 - Do you agree with Victor Frankl that the search for meaning (of life) is the primary, intrinsic motivation of human beings and that we don’t really create meaning—we *find* it?
- Where are we looking?
 - Even if we know what we are looking for and why we are looking for it, we could be looking in all the wrong places. Where have you been looking? What does it mean to look for the living Jesus vs. looking to the world, the flesh, or the devil?

We Respond:

- Based on Romans 6:1-14, what does it mean to “give yourselves completely to God”?
- How does knowing that the same power that raised Jesus from the dead is now at work in us affect where you look?

We Apply:

- Are there any areas in your life where you need ask, seek, and knock differently than you have been?