

Luke 24:1–12

Serving the Lord Doesn't Go according to Our Plan

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Main idea: The main thing in Christianity is not what we do but what the Lord does, and the great thing that He has done is to die for our sins, according to the Scriptures, and to be buried and to rise again the third day, according to the Scriptures.

¹ Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. ² But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. ³ Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. ⁵ Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, ⁷ saying, ‘The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.’”

⁸ And they remembered His words. ⁹ Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them, who told these things to the apostles. ¹¹ And their words seemed to them like idle tales, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter arose and ran to the tomb; and stooping down, he saw the linen cloths lying by themselves; and he departed, marveling to himself at what had happened.

Introduction: That which is of first importance: the good news of what Jesus Christ has done, according to the Scriptures.

1. The first-day Sabbath: all about Him.
2. Change of (Our) Plan: different service ought not be disappointing service
 - a. His saints don't always get to serve in the way they had hoped. “bringing the spices which they had prepared” ... “did not find the body” ... “they were greatly perplexed”
 - b. He is always doing infinitely better than they had hoped ... “Why do you seek the living” ... “He is not here, but is risen!”
 - c. What God gives you to do may not be what you had thought, and it is always more about what He is doing than the part that He gives you in it.
3. His Great Plan: death and resurrection
 - a. His death and resurrection is at the heart of Jesus's words. “Remember how He spoke to you”
 - b. This was the great plan from the beginning. “when He was still in Galilee” ... “must be”
 - c. Whatever else we think we see the Lord doing, the great thing that He is doing is working out the reality of His death and resurrection in our lives.
4. The Greatness of the Glory of His Plan
 - a. Even the apostles couldn't believe. “their words seemed to them like idle tales, and they did not believe them.”
 - b. But by Jesus's prayer and the Spirit's power one may believe. “But Peter arose and ran”
 - c. Those who believe wonder and worship. “he departed, marveling to himself at what had happened”
 - d. If our response to the resurrection is not wonder and worship, then we are not sufficiently grasping—or being gripped by—its reality and glory.

Conclusion: For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve.

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording referenced above)

Luke 24:1-12. These are God's words. Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared.

But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments.

Then as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them. Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here but is risen. 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 Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. It was Mary Magdalene Joanna, marry the mother of James, and the other women with them, who told these things to the Apostles and their words, seemed to them like idle tails.

When they did not believe them But Peter arose and ran to the tomb and stooping down. He saw the linen cloths lying by themselves and he departed marveling to himself at what had happened.

Oh man, that sends this reading of God's inspired and inherent word and we rejoice to know he adds his blessing to the preaching of it. Please be seated.

There are many things that believers ought to do. There are as much in which we need to be instructed. And yet, there is only one thing that is a first importance that is of the greatest importance. If anyone as needed to be instructed and corrected and directed, the Church of Corinth, might be a good candidate for those who needed the most in Corinth, they had all manner of perversion and sin that they needed correction for.

We see that first Corinthians 5 and 6. In Corinth, the worship had been transformed into chaos during the New Testament. Period, we find out from first Corinthians. 14 that in the public worship of God, the Holy Spirit was actually giving people the next prayer the next song. The next preaching, in real time, and this had become a mechanism in Corinth, by which they had emphasized, who was leading at the time, who was up front, who had the next thing from the spirit.

Instead of, in the worship of God, emphasizing God himself. So that if outsiders came among them and had the secrets of their hearts exposed, they would fall on their face and say, God is among you. We have a lot in common. Don't we with the Corinthian church churches? In which we're calling it grace.

And yet many churches even many so-called reform and Presbyterian churches, or tolerating all sorts of perversion. And that's apostle says you boast when you should be weeping about that churches that go by the name reformed and Yet it seems like a competition to stuff as much complexity as possible and have the focus on what's being done on earth and what's being done up front rather than to worship God in spirit and in truth, which God himself as the great feature of his worship.

And yet having given all of that instruction to the Corinthians in first Corinthians, the Apostle comes in chapter 15 is about to wind down the letter. And he says, I delivered to you as a first importance and he announces the gospel of the Lord, Jesus Christ, a passage that has a lot of overlap.

And we might not be surprised with that because Luke through whom the Holy Spirit. Gave us the gospel that we've been hearing preached. These several weeks was a companion of the Apostle. Paul, Some of you have noticed that reading Luke's second volume acts and sometimes he switches from third person, talking about him and them.

And he and they to first person saying we and us because Luke was there with him First Corinthians 15:3. The apostle Paul says, for I delivered to you. First of all, as of greatest importance as a first importance That which I also received that Christ died for our sins.

According to the scriptures and that he was buried and that he rose again the third day, according to the Scriptures and that he was seen by Cephas. And then by the other. Sorry. And then by the 12 after that, he was seen by over 500 brethren at once of whom the greater part remained to the present but some have fallen asleep and so forth.

So, with all the Corinthians needed to be instructed in with all the they needed to be taught that which was a first importance was still that Jesus Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures. And that he rose again, according to the scriptures And that is the great point of the 12 verses that we have before us.

It's something that we will learn as we follow along with these godly women who have followed along with the Lord, Jesus Christ, we noted, and we'll look back briefly again this week at the beginning of chapter 8, that these women have been with him from Galilee and that was pointed out a couple of times in the end of Luke 23, and last week's portion Verse 49, but all his acquaintances and the women who followed him from Galilee.

And then verse 55, the women who had come with him from Galilee, and that's emphasized again, in our passage. Do you not remember how he spoke to you? When he was still in Galilee chapter 24 and verse 6, and with them, we will learn several things and that is we will learn that God gives us to serve, according to His plan and not ours.

In the first place that however much you might have hoped and prepared to serve God in one way. He may well and most of us can probably tell you those who have walked with him for some time. He may well have for you to serve him in a different way and that is one of the things we'll learn with them In the second place.

Or the second part of that, we'll see that the service that God gives us to do is primarily about what he is doing through it. That the great thing is what he does And then we'll see that the great thing that he does is the death and resurrection of Jesus.

And then we'll see how great is the death and the resurrection of Jesus. How glorious the death and resurrection of Jesus are First. However, as we come into that, we come with these women on the first day and as our translation has it written and it's perfectly acceptable. Now, on the first day of the week, This is the day that would come to be known as the Lord's day and what you may not see in an English translation.

Some of you perhaps read Greek or you have an interlinear is that it is also perfectly correct to translate this on the first day. Sabbath. In fact, if you have and I know some of you do a Greek or an interlinear in front of you, you could just look up into The previous chapter verse 54.

That day was the preparation and the Sabbath drew near sabaton. And then verse 56, they rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment Sabaton and then verse 1 of chapter 24. Now, on the first day Sabbath Sabaton, it's modified and the emphasis is by the number one Mia, before it Now whether or not this does say first day Sabbath, it may say, first day of the week, it may also say first day Sabbath but it is the new Sabbath.

The Sabbath is one day in seven in which the Lord gathers his people to himself and not only in which the Lord gathers his people to himself but a day that he consecrates His holy Man cannot decide what day is the Sabbath. Not some of you are easily deceived perhaps by persuasive words, you get on the internet and you look things up and those usually with the least evidence and the most grinding agenda have filled webpages for you to go to and say, aha man.

Change the Sabbath. Well, have you not just been referred to first Corinthians 14 in which during the apostolic period? God himself in real time. Gave the content of the public worship and we know in first Corinthians and second Corinthians, it was the first day of the week in which they were gathered.

And Jesus Christ, himself tells us own, we're told in the gospels only of gatherings. On the first days of the week from the resurrection, to the ascension At that point there were dependent upon Jesus, walking through a wall or appearing in their midst. You couldn't decide when together with Jesus Jesus gathered with you and so it is not surprising that it would come to be called the Lord's Day.

Only two uses of the adjectival form of the word Lord, in the entire news, New Testament. One. In first Corinthians 11, the Lord's Supper. The other in Revelation chapter 1, The Lord's day. This is the Lord's Day. This is the first day Sabbath. In fact, if this is AD29 and the high day Sabbath that John 19 tells us about was actually on the Friday, this would be the only time in history.

It was ever possible to have three Sabbaths in a row, the Passover Sabbath, the high day on the Friday, the weekly Sabbath on the Saturday. And now the first day Sabbath on the first day of the week, Now whether or not, the Lord was actually crucified on a Thursday whether or not it says, first day Sabbath here, this is the day that the Lord had concentrated to their knowing him and by the end of the day, he would appear among he would have appeared to the men on the way to Emmaus and and then they would hurry all the way back and and they would get there and they'd still be speaking.

And Jesus would appear in that gathering too. That's what the Sabbath is. It's the day of celebrating the Lord himself with the Lord Himself, some of you who are convinced of this glorious truth. That the first day of the week is the Lord's Day. The Sabbath that the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit, have selected.

Not the church, the church following and receiving from the Lord Jesus. And the Spirit you have you have known this day is consecrated perhaps. Some of you have said, what I have heard said that this is the day that we celebrate, the resurrection. Well, we know that this was the resurrection was the occasion on which the day was changed and certainly the resurrection is honored in that day.

But this is the day in which we celebrate the resurrected one. The original Sabbath was not a celebration of the creation. It was a celebration of the creator on the occasion of his concluding that creation. And this is a celebration of the resurrected, one on the occasion of his resurrection, by which he has marked, and by which he has changed that day.

Now, these ladies didn't know that. Did they They thought they had rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment, perhaps two days in a row. Leviticus 23. Gives you the weekly Sabbath and then it gives you other festivals with their Sabbaths that are holy convocations and you could go look at that.

They thought they had finished keeping Sabbath according to the commandment, they come and they have planned how they're going to serve Jesus today. For them. It's as if it were a Monday, just for your sake in order to put yourself in their shoes, kept the day of worship gathered with the Lord's people but you have all those plans for how you're going to serve the Lord in the coming week.

And as many of us have discovered, as many of us have discovered, the Lord often has different plans than we do. Doesn't he you've done all the preparing. You finally gotten to bed on time. You are finally able to sleep. Well, You're actually up a minute before the alarm goes off and you look and you rejoice and you give thanks to God and you rush out and everything is laid out ready for the day.

But by the time you crawl back into that bed, His providence has been very different than you had intended. Well, the Lord emphasizes that aspect of these ladies service to him. Now, in the first day of the week, very early in the morning they in certain other women with them came to the tomb, bringing the spices which they had prepared.

Now, we need to be careful. Not to speculate beyond Scripture at this conversation, with some of you and floating my family in the intervening days between last week. And this wonder what happened to those spices and fragrant oils. Probably not quite spiked nerd. Probably not a year's worth, maybe a year's worth, but probably not a year's worth of wages worth of spices and fragrant oils but costly nonetheless, and time invested to prepare them.

And we know by the time we get to the end of our path, they didn't get to use them. Did they because they come and they didn't find the body of Jesus. So who knows maybe somebody else died and you're close to the family and they just gave them away or maybe they sold them to other people who needed them or perhaps there was another use for them that they reserved them for.

Who knows what we know is that they had prepared, they had worked hard, they had observed how they could serve the Lord, they out of love for Jesus. Had prepared this for application to his body. They had watched Jesus being laying in the tomb with the linen cloths, but no spices are fragrant oils.

And said, aha, we can do this places and fragrant oils that service has been left for us and they've kept the Sabbath in here, they come first light Sabbath is over. By the way, that implies that, they were keeping morning to morning. At least these ladies first light, and here they come and they don't get to do.

What they had worked so hard on preparing for We'll address you children, and especially you older children, especially you have plans Some of you, Some of you don't have plans, some of you are tired, You got to 12 13 years old or so and people started asking you what are your plans?

And then you're a senior. And now they're really asking you. What are your plans? And then you graduate what are your plans video play to get up tomorrow?

But some of you have an idea, something good, perhaps marriage bearing children, raising them a particular service in the church or a particular service unto the glory of Christ in the community and you've worked hard and you've prepared and it's out of love for him and it's something that's commendable.

And then the providence of God comes along that you don't get to follow those plans. Mmm. The case of these women it's as if the spices in the fragrant oils were set aside, now the Lord had plans, they got to be the ones who announced to the apostles that Jesus had risen.

You can imagine them on the way from the tomb, to, where the apostles were excited about God's change of plans for them. This is a huge upgrade on the service that they had planned for God And then they get to the apostles and they tell the apostles and the apostles, I silly old wives tales.

We don't believe that often what the Lord has for you to do and the fruit that you get to see from it is very different and what you had planned for and prepared for and hoped to see come from it. And yet we don't read and certainly, they would not have looked back on this day and thought what a frustrating day.

But isn't that often how we feel in the midst of the days, in which the Lord providentially changes those plans, you had something else very different to do and then came that phone call with an opportunity to minister the gospel and very difficult situation. A brother or sister was put in life or death need or suffered, a great loss.

He had much opportunity there to tell of the goodness of Christ and to minister to his body as it were very differently than you thought or it might just be something so small. And we'll have to put fear quotes around that because it's not small. As this happened to be the day that your child's remaining sin decided to rear its ugly.

Head. Five times as much as usual and your plans for the day. Ended up being discipline and instruct in the gospel and called to repentance and faith. In Jesus Christ over and over and over again or perhaps a question from a child that you weren't prepared for and the situation the conversations uncomfortable at first.

And what in the world? Am I going to do now? Lord, Yet many years. Hence, that was a day that something you said from the Word of God, the Holy Spirit made stick in your child's heart. You might not even know if they got converted, but you're wondering if it was that day, You don't know.

You don't know what the Lord has given for you. Let us trust him enough. Not to be frustrated when he grants to us to serve according to His plan instead of ours. Now what they had wanted to do was to apply spices and fragrant oils, perhaps to slow down decomposition, perhaps just to to add something of the smell of life, in the middle of the decay of death to honor and serve the body, the physical flesh and bones, the physical flesh of the Lord Jesus Christ, But wasn't the Lord way ahead of them hadn't.

He already taken care of that. You see, Jesus's body was not going to see corruption Peter whom we will leave the passage with at the end of the passage in verse 12. He gets to preach in seven weeks or so time that we all sort of known this from Psalm 16 because the prophet David functioning is a prophet talks about God, not letting his his flesh, see corruption, but we've got David's body and it's a tomb over there and it is definitely done with the corruption.

They're just some bones in there. It is decayed and gone. So Psalm 16 had to be about somebody else. It wasn't about David, it was about Jesus. If we'd understood it properly, We would have known that. He didn't need spices or fragrant oils because there wasn't gonna be decay.

There's gonna be resurrection.

The Lord was ahead of them doing better than they could have doing better than they could have imagined. The Lord is ahead of you too. Dear Christian suppose we're touched on one of your desires to serve him. Something you've prepared for and your thought was well that's good and well, I'm glad I get to serve him in another way But what about and you think of the thing that you wanted to serve him in?

Well, he knows about that and he is working according to his riches of his glory in which He supplies. All the needs of all of his people, your heavenly Father, needs knows what you need before you ask it, he doesn't need our help And here the Lord was already doing infinitely better.

Then they had hoped. And so, let's the first great thing here change in our plans often, our service is different than we had expected and we ought not be disappointed by that. In fact what the main thing and whatever we do is what God is doing through it. Even the fruit of it may be different than we thought, but the main thing that God is doing is always in the application of Christ's death and resurrection.

That was always the main thing. Think of all that these women had seen and the love of Jesus and all that, they had heard in the teaching of Jesus. And here they had come to love him to and they wanted to serve him. They had seen him, perform miracles and testify to the glory of who He is.

They they had seen him show compassion to the kinds of people that nobody showed compassion to even Pharisees, by the way, you know, they, they had seen him, they had heard him on the one hand, warning them about the Pharisees and and then they had seen him patiently bearing with Pharisees and one conversation after another, they had seen and heard so much from Jesus Christ the last three years, but the angels boil it down to this nugget.

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. Now, when they say, Remember, when he spoke to you, when he was still in Galilee, it's not like you saying, You remember what I told you the other day?

When we were out to coffee, It's not it's not just locating, you know, the geography of where the words were spoken, They're the angels are pointing out. This is something Jesus has been telling you for years. Luke chapter 8 Now it came to pass afterward. He went through every city in village preaching and bringing glad tidings of the kingdom of God.

And the 12 were with him and certain women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene out of whom. He had, come seven, demons, and Joanna, wife of who's a Herod Stewart, and Susanna, and Many others who provided for him from their substance. And then, in our passage verse 10, it was Mary Magdalene Johanna.

Marry the mother of James and the author women with them. Who told these things to the apostles? You see the Holy Spirit through Luke tying the group in chapter 8 to the group, in the end of 23, in the beginning of 24. And they're following him from Galilee, So they're not just the angels aren't just saying, you know, he told you once three years ago, way back when you were in Galilee The point is he has been telling you this since Galilee and we could trace through the gospel several occasions on which he had told them that the Son of Man must suffer, many things, and, and be crucified.

And on the third day, rise again. And so the point they're making is that Everything else of Jesus taught. This was the main thing. He taught that he had come to die for sinners and rise again. Everything else that Jesus did? This is the main thing that Jesus did.

He died for sinners and rose. Again, You see the connection. Now, between what the angels say here in reminding the women about the teaching of Jesus and what the Apostle Paul does, at the end of first Corinthians after all of that other teaching and correcting. And instructing, he says, I delivered to you as a first importance Christ, Jesus Christ died, for sinners.

According to the scriptures there, first Corinthians 15 Here. The the angels are saying Jesus Christ, died. According to his word, according to what he spoke to you and he's risen again according to what he spoke to you. That's the main thing. Everything else in the believer's life leading up, to their conversion is bringing them to the faith to faith in him who died for them.

And who has risen, again everything flowing out from. When you come to faith, is an application of taking up your cross. Daily living for him who died for you independence upon his life that it's by his resurrection that you walk in newness of life When you receive baptism when you're set apart as part of his church.

And and in imitation of him, who pours, out the spirit from heaven, you have the water poured out upon you on earth and, and you're, you're gays, you is directed to the Lord Jesus and glory. Who does the spiritual reality of which we have the physical symbol. It says all of your Christian life is about Jesus and His work, it's about being united to him in your death.

So that your sin and guilt can't accuse you and you're not a slave anymore to to all of the things that were your masters and in which to which you were in bondage apart from Christ but you have died with him and you are a new person in him by his resurrection, you walk in newness of life.

It's all about His work, both his work in his death and resurrection and then his work by His Spirit in your life, applying that death and resurrection to you. It's all about him. In fact, in a few minutes will come Lord willing by his help to the other sacrament.

And we'll eat the bread, which is a fellowship with his body and will drink the cup, which is a fellowship with his blood. And as we eat the bread and drink the cup, we will show forth. What The Lord's death until what until he comes the death and resurrection of Christ both in his life and ministry on earth and then in its application by the spirit's work to the believer That is the great work not just of your life as a whole.

But of every day of your life, we had a times some years back a season in our families household, which we had been in many passages with all of, which had reinforced. This fact, that that through which you came to be established in the faith. Just like we heard in Colossians this morning, receiving Jesus Christ, the Lord just as you received him as Lord.

So also walk in Him that you don't start by repentance in faith and then move on to something else. But you start with repentance and faith and you walk by repentance and faith, that the crucified risen ascended. Reigning Savior is the ongoing every day reality for the Christian. No wonder the apostle in our reading from Colossians.

This morning was so urgent that they not be cheated by turning aside to anything else. You have God himself, who has been given for you in your place to die. And now has been given to you as your life as a Christian. Why would you depend upon or live for anything else?

But Christ And anything that doesn't have his death and resurrection at its center is a cheat. A vanity. So also These women had come And what they want to do is not wrong, loving the Lord, Jesus and wanting to apply the spices and fragrant oils to his body. But they are reminded of this glorious truth that the main thing is not what we are doing for Christ.

It was what Christ has done for us and what Christ is doing in us and through us. And the main thing that he has done that everything else flows out of is his death and resurrection. Don't you remember what? He was telling you already all the way back and Galilee what he's been telling you for three years that the son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified.

And the third day rise again, and glorious sentence and verse 8 and they remembered his words and remembered his words, Many of us have come to the end of the day, in which we have thought little infrequently lightly about who Jesus is and what He has done. And we have not lived in light of and application of belonging to the crucified and risen Savior.

And yet many of us have come to the end of a day in which he has by his mercy. Granted us many opportunities not the least of which and this is why those set times are. So helpful is set time for private worship. You come through the crucified and risen Savior.

And you remember his words and set time of family worship, You have to come together as a family through the crucified and risen Savior. You're a member His words. And when you have those set times, how much more often he comes along with that fresh material, through the God, commanded habits of private and family worship.

And he blesses unto you to remember his words to walk by that faith and repentance and faith. Whatever else. We think we see the Lord doing the great thing that he is doing is working out the reality of his death and resurrection in our lives. And then in the last place, the greatness of the glory of his resurrection is a greatness of it's such a great and glorious thing that actually the apostles weren't able to believe it.

They return from the tomb, they tell these things to the 11 and to all the rest And one of the ways that verse 10 functions as it names, Mary, Magdalene and Joanna and the other women and we've already gone back to chapter 8 and seen that, these are women who have been with Jesus from Galilee.

But you know, who else these women have been with from Galilee the 12th, okay? This is not a group of unknown, women showing up, like friends of friends on social media that you're really not sure about them. These are the women whom the apostles knew They're not given to telling fantastical tales you know.

They're the ones who have walked with Jesus alongside the Apostles and received the same teaching and many occasions, not least of which the last four days have done better than the apostles on some occasions In terms of not abandoning Christ and in terms of loving him, and clinging to him and believing in him.

And so, one of the ways that verse 10 functions is it reminds us just who it is whose words still were unbelievable. Now, think about that, We know that Jesus hadn't secretly told these women. Sorry, it didn't mean to imitate the president, though. Jesus had secretly told these women, that, that he was going to die and and rise again.

No, he had told the apostles. The same words that the women had, the apostles had The women. Remember The apostles don't yet seem to remember Isn't that odd. So the women who are known to them, they're telling them words that didn't just start with the women. Their words that came from Christ.

I'm still with all of the advantages that these men have had Three years with Christ, three years, seeing his character three years. Hearing his testimony about himself, Three years, predicting his own death and resurrection. And now it has happened and women whom they know and whom they know to be reliable have come and told them that it has happened and they still don't believe Why.

Well, many of you having been reformed for quite a while, are ready with the answer, aren't you? And it's the right answer because the ability to believe in the crucified and risen Lord. Jesus does not come from how good the evidence is or how rich your experience has been or how well it's presented on earth.

Believing the reality of Jesus crucified for sinners and risen again, from the dead is something that comes by the gift of the Holy Spirit. And we see that even in the end of the passage, because, Peter arose. But Peter arose and ran to the tomb. Now, some of you perhaps if your name is John or perhaps, if you're just prejudiced against Peter and is a yeah, well John tells us, he doesn't use his own name but we all know who he means by the disciple whom Jesus loved.

John tells us that that he ran. In fact, John tells us who won the race. John was younger and John made it to the tomb first. And but even John tells us that after he won the race, he hung around outside, Peter was the one who went in, You see Peter arose and ran to the tomb, Luke doesn't tell us about John.

Why in part? Because in Luke's account, the, the denials of Peter have featured, so intensely. And we remember what Jesus had said that, although all of the disciples were going to be sifted. Jesus had specifically prayed for Peter and so when we see the rest of the disciples unable to believe in hanging back, but in Luke's account, he shines the spotlight on Peter running to the tomb.

What are we saying? We're not saying haha, Peter disciple. Number one again. No, Peter has been among the worst Peter has denied Jesus with cursing, But when we see the one who had denied him with cursing, not settling an unbelief but running to the tomb to see. We remember, That's right.

Jesus has prayed for him. Jesus has prayed for him and he's going to be restored. Jesus has prayed for him and he's going to be restored and he's gonna strengthen the brethren and even in what we read from first Corinthians 15, we see Peter identified singled out, don't we?

And now we have the answer, how do we come to grasp the greatness of the glory and the truth of the reality of the resurrection because that which Jesus has desired for us? He gives by His Spirit, which means if you have sat here for years and you have heard the gospel announced to you and you have have come from it.

Rather unaffected, or even disaffected still, the one who gives us to believe, the one who gives us to be impressed. The one who gives us to worship is able to give that to you too. Those who love you will be no doubt praying for you and laboring, but you can also pray for yourself.

You can cry out to him, maybe with just words, because you have nothing left, or nothing to give in your heart and that's fine. The Bible tells us that you have nothing to give in your heart, So I can't believe that. Well, That's right. You can't, We're not surprised.

It's what the Bible says, but God, as a merciful God, who gives to people that they would believe, just as he gave to Peter here.

Now, there's something that Peter does that. I urge all of us to do and that is to marvel Peter arose and ran to the tomb and stooping down. He saw the linen clothes lying by themselves and he departed marveling to himself at what had happened. You get that Peter has a grasp.

He's not quite where he needs to be yet, right? Still doesn't know what to do with himself, takes up fishing again. And yet when the Lord appears on the boat on the shore, he dives out of the boat and barely gets to shore before the the guys who are in the books, you get right behind and that whole incident is still going to happen.

But here, Peter has being turned back into. What worshiper? Isn't he because the clause that those women were going to apply the spices and fragrant oils to, they're there in the tomb. This wasn't a body snatching. If you're gonna rob a tomb of a dead body, You don't carefully.

Unwrap the carcass that's been in there. Three days, You leave the cloths on and carry the whole thing away. So what Peter has seen in verse 12 is that Jesus really has risen from the dead. Like he said, like these women had said, and you can see that he's been given to believe this by the fact that he responds with worship.

And so, I ask you, when you hear about Jesus Christ bodily risen from the dead after having been crucified. Do you worship? Do you marvel? This is one of the differences. Isn't it Between just having heard it a thousand times since you were a child and having some kind of intellectual historical agreement?

It's like when you hear something about Caesar, when you hear something about Calvin, or he hear something about George, Washington, and intellectual facts events and their lives. You hear about Jesus being crucified you right yet? We believe Jesus crucified, Jesus rose from yet. We believe Jesus rose from the dead, But if Jesus is your God and Savior who actually died for you and you are starting to embrace the reality that he is physically risen from the dead that there is human flesh and blood on the throne of glory that there, where everything is perfected.

The only things that appear as imperfection. Are the marks of the wounds of your Savior that the lamb and him who sits on the throne that the lamb is one who has been slain or as if he has been slain and you start to realize that your resurrection body will be glorified by being conformed to his, and that you will physically lay eyes on the Lord.

Jesus one day and that as he intercedes for you in glory, he doesn't only do. So, according to his divine nature, But even according to his human nature, He is the one mediator between God and man, even according to his human nature, the man, Jesus Christ. And this is part of the reason for which he was bodily resurrected.

Now, ahead of all of the rest of our resurrections is so that as the God man in heaven, he would always live to intercede for you and that He is able to save you to the other. Most by the power of His indestructible life. Do you see the reality of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus?

And how those who are grasping. This reality ought to be those who wonder not to be those who worship who marvel to themselves at what has happened.

Is therefore more clear to us. Now, Why would the why? The Apostle would say to the Corinthians by the Holy Spirit. For I delivered to you first of all, that, which I also received that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures and that he was buried and that he rose again the third day, according to the scriptures and that he was seen by Cephas.

And then by the 12, amen, let us pray.

Lord Jesus. We thank you for your word and for the ministry of your spirit, helping us and the preaching, and hearing of that word. So that our and all of our plans and desire to serve you, we might have our attention redirected to you and who you are and what you have done.

So that your death and resurrection, might have the first place in our hearts and our minds and that we might look to you who have died and risen to be the one who works in our lives. And the one who is working through, whatever service you give us to be able to offer, We bless your name and we ask that you would get glory in our lives.

This week, the rest of our earthly life forever. We ask it in your name, amen.