



Sermon Discussion Questions – May 5, 2024

Scripture Passages:

Luke 24:41 And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?”

Luke 24:45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.

Luke 24:46 He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day....”

1 Peter 4:12-13 Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.

Luke 24:46-47 He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”

Acts 2:37-38 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “*Brothers, what shall we do?*” Peter replied, “*Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*”

Luke 24:48 "You are witnesses of these things."

John 5:39 "You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me...."

Luke 24:4 "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."

Jeremiah 29:11-12 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. You will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

Discussion:

1. Since the start of our Cause and Effect series we have heard the question, "Am I living out the power of the resurrection in my life?" How has your answer changed since the beginning of this series?
2. Pastor Scott used this quote from Paul Tillich: "Doubt isn't the opposite of faith; it is an element of faith."
How do you see doubt as an element of faith? Do you see this being true for you?
3. Pastor Scott talked with us about God's plan and made his first point:
God has always had a plan to be reconciled to you.
What does it mean to you that God's plan was always to be with you?
4. Pastor Scott's second point was:
God's plan has a great purpose for you.
How have you seen God's purpose for you? How has He shown you that purpose?
5. Pastor Scott's third point was:
God's plan and purpose lead us to be witnesses for His kingdom.
What does it mean to you to be a witness for His kingdom? How have you seen yourself as one?
6. Pastor Scott's last point was:
God's plan is only possible through the Power of the Holy Spirit.
How have you seen the Holy Spirit in your life? How have you seen God's plan work through the Holy Spirit?

Next Steps:

Pastor Scott ended his message with:

If I chase purpose, I will never be satisfied -there's got to be more, there's got to be something better, there has to be something else I'm missing out on. I got to do more, be more, have more -it never ends

*But if I chase His presence, purpose will follow me everywhere I go
You will find yourself doing things you didn't know you could do
You will find yourself making a difference when you thought you had no influence
You find yourself with a capacity to be something that's bigger than yourself
You will see opportunities open in front of you
You will have clarity in life decisions*

*Don't chase purpose = let me say it this way -purpose is not the target
Presence is the target, purpose is the reward...if you seek Him, he will bring you purpose*

What can you do this week to seek God and His presence? What next steps might He be calling you to his seeking His presence?