



Sunday May 27, 2018 – What Are You looking for? – Luke 24:1-12

Luke 24:1-12

But very early on Sunday morning the women went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. ² They found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. ³ So they went in, but they didn't find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ As they stood there puzzled, two men suddenly appeared to them, clothed in dazzling robes. ⁵ The women were terrified and bowed with their faces to the ground. Then the men asked, **"Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive?"** ⁶ He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! Remember what he told you back in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be betrayed into the hands of sinful men and be crucified, and that he would rise again on the third day." ⁸ Then they remembered that he had said this. ⁹ So they rushed back from the tomb to tell his eleven disciples—and everyone else—what had happened. ¹⁰ It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and several other women who told the apostles what had happened. ¹¹ But the story sounded like nonsense to the men, so they didn't believe it. ¹² However, Peter jumped up and ran to the tomb to look. Stooping, he peered in and saw the empty linen wrappings; then he went home again, wondering what had happened.

What Are You Looking Among The Dead for?

We celebrate this weekend and on Monday, what people have done for us through the giving of their life for our freedom.

We go to the cemeteries to remember them and their life.

We think about what life would be like if they were still here with us.

The disciples were no different.

The gathered to ponder what next.

Where do we go from here, are they coming after us too?

Uncertainty gripped them in the heart.

Jesus gave instructions for them to carry on with the ministry of the Kingdom of God.

The answer is in the question that was asked the women who was looking for Jesus at His tomb.

“Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive?”

Jesus is calling us to look forward.

It is good to remember the past and what was accomplished through those who served the Lord fully committed to Him.

We can't allow our past to cloud our future.

Jesus is not calling us to relive the past, but to move forward from our past unto new life in Christ.

We can't allow our past mistakes to hinder us from serving Jesus fully.

The disciples could have stayed in the house hiding from the outside world.

Jesus didn't call us to hide from the world, but to be an example of Jesus to the world.

How can I be an example to this world?

Letting Jesus live in me fully!

Jesus Is Alive! (Luke 9:57-62)

As they were walking along, someone said to Jesus, “I will follow you wherever you go.”

⁵⁸ But Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens to live in, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place even to lay his head.” ⁵⁹ He said to another person, “Come, follow me.”

The man agreed, but he said, “Lord, first let me return home and bury my father.”

⁶⁰ But Jesus told him, “Let the spiritually dead bury their own dead!^[a] Your duty is to go and preach about the Kingdom of God.”

⁶¹ Another said, “Yes, Lord, I will follow you, but first let me say good-bye to my family.”

⁶² But Jesus told him, “Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God.”

Jesus brings us hope that there is more to this than what we see.

He is alive to help me when I'm in distress or broken because of this life.

Jesus instructed them to go and preach the gospel. (Romans 10:14)

But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?

They made requests to bury the dead and to bid farewell to family.

Jesus's reply may seem unsensitive to their request.

What Jesus was saying is that the ministry of the Kingdom of God is more important than anything else.

People need to hear the gospel.

People need to know we care.

People need to know they are loved by Jesus Christ no matter the circumstance they are in.

Hope is only found in Jesus Christ and Him alone.

Do you know someone who needs the Hope of Jesus?

Do you know someone who is struggling with life?

Give them Jesus, He is Alive!

In Closing

This Memorial Day remember your loved ones and those who gave their lives to keep us free.

Don't forget to remember the one who makes us free from life's struggles, Jesus Christ.

Commit this Sunday to follow Him without excuse.

Serving Jesus and leading others to Him is the most important thing we can do.

Don't allow anything to come between you and serving Jesus Christ.

Time is short, and the fields are ready to harvest. (Matthew 9:36-38)

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ He said to his disciples, "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. ³⁸ So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields."