



We Need Good News!

Luke 24:1-9

Sermon given on April 12, 2020

Calvary Chapel French Valley

Easter Service

@ Remotely via YouTube from Rick's home because of coronavirus crisis

Pastor Rick Lancaster

WE NEED GOOD NEWS!

Luke 24:1-9

SCENE: Service Countdown – 15 minutes prior to start of service

At beginning of service: SCENE: Worship

Sources ON: PowerPoint & David

At end of Worship – David prays – Turn on – IMAGE – Title Slide – C920 – Blue Yeti

- **SLIDE 57**

After David prays – Turn off – IMAGE – Title Slide - David Greeting

- Hello, I am Rick Lancaster - Welcome to Calvary Chapel French Valley's Easter service
- I'm sad that we can't be together physically, but I am thankful that we have the technology to gather remotely
- Before we get started with the message, I have a few things you should know
- **Stay Connected – Slide 58**
- It would be very easy to become isolated during this crisis
- We want to be connected to you and for you to be connected to the body – We all need that!
- **Digital Connection Card** - Fill out the Digital Connection Card online at CCFV.life
- That way we can keep you informed about what is going on with the church
- **Life Groups** - Also, get into an online Life Group
- It is a good way to stay connected to other people in the church and grow in your faith
- **Slide 59**
- **Prayer** - We know you have a lot going on in your life and we want to partner with you in prayer
- There are probably things going on that only God can fix – let us come alongside you and ask Him for His help
- **Giving** – Giving is one of the ways we express our faith to God

- It might be easy to forget to give when we are going online to church in our pajamas
- If you are a regular giver to the church, we would ask you to keep giving
- If you are new to CCFV, you are welcome to give, but don't feel pressured or obligated
- One last thing **Slide 60**
- In a couple of weeks, I will be starting a study through the book of Revelation – God's last words to the church
- With this pandemic, people are asking questions about End Times things – good time for us to look at what God says about the things that are going on in the world
- You can find links to all these things in the description below
- Don't forget to subscribe to this channel and turn on notifications
- Okay, that enough of the housekeeping items
- **Slide 61**
- Not that long ago we couldn't imagine holding an Easter service completely remotely
- The news is filled with things that we couldn't have imagined a short time ago – but here we are
- The COVID-19/coronavirus crisis is just about all anyone is talking about right now
- The effects of this pandemic are worldwide and are likely to impact our lives for many years to come
- The media is filled with a lot of bad news
- It's not all bad news in the world, after 376 consecutive weeks California is no longer in a drought
- The news also includes stories of kindness, generosity, sacrifice, and heroism during this crisis
- During a time like this it is not strange that people look for a way of escape – which is the only explanation of the popularity of Tiger King – we want something to talk about that isn't COVID-19 - no, I haven't seen it
- Each of us when we woke up this morning wanted good news
- It is nice to hear that the drought has ended, but we really want to hear that the pandemic has ended

- We need good news
- So that is what I am going to share with you this morning – some good news
- In fact, it is the greatest good news you will ever hear
- Even if you have heard this good news a thousand times – it is still good news
- This good news is so good that it helps make the bad news less bad
- Let's pray and then get into our message for this morning
- **Pray!**
- **SLIDE 62**

Teaching

- **We Need Good News!**
- Turn to **Luke 24 - SLIDE 63**
- Every year, Christians take one Sunday to celebrate Easter
- We prefer to call it Resurrection Sunday because it is the day we 'gather' to remember that Jesus was resurrected from the dead
- Anyone coming back from the dead would make the news
- But it might not be good news for everyone
- If Elvis came back from the dead that might be good news to many
- But if Osama Bin Laden came back that would be bad news
- Jesus coming back from the dead was good news to the whole world
- That is stated when the angels announced His birth **SLIDE 64**
- **Luke 2:10-11**

Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

- 'good tidings' = good news – 'to all people'
- COVID-19 is bad news – 1.6 million cases, 100K dead
- But mankind has a much larger problem than the coronavirus
- Of the 7.8 billion people on this planet, 7.8 billion of them are infected with something that is fatal 100% of the time
- The Bible calls it 'sin' – we don't get it from other people we are born with it
- Like a virus, it lives inside of us, but unlike a virus, it cannot be cured with natural human methods or science

- To understand sin, we need to understand how and why God created us
- **SLIDE 65** - First – **Created to be like God!**
- In the beginning when God made the first man, He used Himself as the template **Genesis 1:26**

Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...”

- **SLIDE 66** - Second – **Created to be with God!**
- God didn’t create mankind as some social experiment or like His other animal creations – we were created to be in relationship with God **Genesis 3:8**

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day...

- **SLIDE 67** - Third – **Created to be innocent of evil!**
- In the Garden Adam was told to stay away from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil
- Adam and Eve did what they were told not to do and were no longer innocent and hid themselves from God in fear of Him
- And then through them all of humanity was infected with sin
- God created humans to be the objects of His love and grace
- He promised Adam and Eve to provide a cure for humanity
- That cure came in the Person of God’s own Son Jesus Christ - **SLIDE 68** **John 3:16**

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

- Humanly speaking, sin is an incurable disease
- If we were just like the animals, death would be the end
- But God created us in His image and gave us an immortal soul
- So that when the body dies, the soul lives on forever
- But if someone dies infected by sin without receiving the cure they cannot be with God
- And the Bible teaches that there is only one place in the universe that you can be apart from God – a horrible place of eternal torment
- That brings us to our text for this morning - **SLIDE 69**
- Jesus died on the cross on Friday afternoon and became the cure for our sin

- For three hours darkness covered the land – and then Jesus died – and darkness covered the hearts of those who followed Him
- All those who had been with Jesus were devastated and lost
- They were in a place of crisis – they didn't know what to do or where to go
- Everything that they had hoped for in Jesus died on the cross with Him
- Their dreams and hopes lay trapped in a tomb behind a massive stone
- Friday was a dark day for the followers of Jesus
- That was followed by a day where all they could do was reflect upon what had happened
- Every week the Jews had something similar to a lockdown – the Sabbath
- And then the sun rises on Sunday morning
- **Luke 24:1**
- 'first day of the week' = Sunday
- Because of the time that Jesus died on Friday they weren't able to prepare His body for burial because of the Sabbath shutdown
- This was their first opportunity to show respect to the body of this Man they loved
- **Luke 24:2-4**
- The stone weighed at least a ton, maybe two
- 'two men' – other gospels = angels – God's messengers
- **Luke 24:5-6a**
- They had come to the graveyard and went into the tomb expecting to find a corpse
- Instead, two angels with the fantastic news – He isn't dead – He is risen!
- Then the angels tell the women to remember what Jesus said
- **Luke 24:6b-9**
- Everything happened exactly the way Jesus said it would
- He died for the sins of the whole world and then on the third day He rose from the grave proving that He has power over death and the grave
- The good news or gospel of Jesus Christ – we are all infected with sin – Jesus died on the cross to become the cure

- When Jesus rose from the dead, He proved that He had broken the power of sin on the cross
- Now, anyone who receives the cure, believes on Jesus Christ for salvation, is cured – forgiven for our sin – no longer must we fear having to pay the penalty for our sins – Jesus paid it with His perfect life
- No longer are bound under the power of sin – we can choose not to sin
- And someday we will be saved from the very presence of sin – restored to the perfection and ushered into the very presence of God to be with Him forever in heaven
- The good news of Jesus Christ is that even though we are all infected by sin, we can be cured through Jesus Christ and live with the hope of eternal life in heaven
- But the good news of Jesus is not just about getting to heaven – it is about living as light in a dark world
- In verse 6 the angels said, ‘Remember how He spoke to you...’
- And then in verse 8 it says of the women, ‘And they remembered His words.’
- The coronavirus crisis is not over yet, and I have a sense that there may be dark days ahead for many – there may be bad news ahead
- We need good news – the good news is what Jesus said and did
- Friends, if you have a Bible you have the good news that shines light into the darkness that comes into your life and to those around you
- It doesn’t make the bad news go away – but it does point to the hope that helps us to find our way through the darkness
- Verse 9 of our text says that once they remembered what Jesus said, they told others – they became messengers of the good news
- The world is preoccupied with the bad news
- Let’s be light in the darkness and let others know there is good news
- We need it and so do they!
- **SLIDE 70**
- **Pray**
- Thank you for joining us for the Resurrection Sunday service
- If there is anything we can do to help you in any way, please reach out to us – phone, email, social media

- I will be staying online in the chat room for a little while if you have any thoughts or questions
- Be safe out there!
- And remember the good news – Jesus is alive! He is risen! Make sure to tell someone!
- God bless you. I hope to see you online soon!
- Until then, have a radical week with Jesus!
- Turn on IMAGE – Title Slide
- Turn off Blue Yeti
- After about 30 seconds End stream on YouTube
- In OBS Stop Streaming and Stop Recording