



## The Words of Jesus Series

# Final Appearances

On the roads to Emmaus and Damascus, picnic on the beach

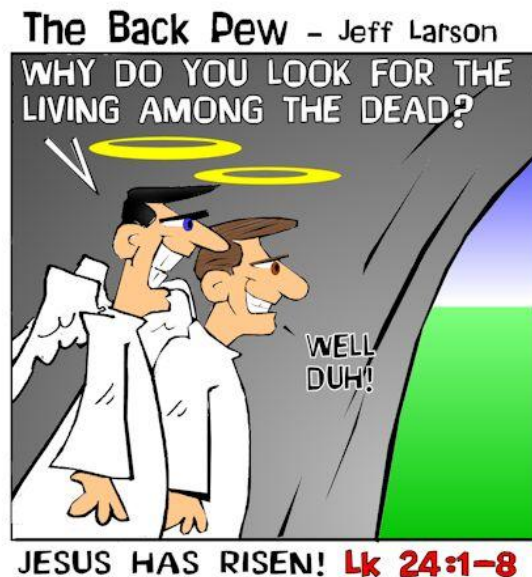
**Context:** Luke 24, John 21, Acts 1 & 9

**Lesson 1 – Road to Emmaus** (Luke 24:13-35)

**Lesson 2 – On the Beach** (John 21:1-25)

**Lesson 3 – Road to Damascus** (Acts 1:9-11, Acts 9:1-19)

Jesus appears to two disciples on the road to Emmaus and explains how the Old Testament was about Him. He meets some disciples on the shore of a lake and feeds them breakfast and gives some instructions. He rises up to heaven with angels promising His return. He meets Saul/Paul on the road to Damascus and Saul the Persecutor becomes Paul the Preacher.



### Suggested methodology for each lesson:

1. Fellowship (Save most of this for the end of class.)
2. Take prayer requests (Try to keep it from becoming a competition to see who has the most or the worst.)
3. Pray (The idea here is to leave our troubles with God so we can give His word our attention with a clear mind.)
4. Read the lesson's text aloud from the Bible. (... or a few verses at a time as you answer the questions.)
5. Answer and *briefly* discuss the "fill in the blank" questions. (Let those who prefer to listen, listen. My answers on the next page are just one opinion; you may have a better answer if it is based on Scripture.)
6. On the final "Think & Pray" question everyone should take a few minutes to pray over it and jot down their own thoughts before the discussion. **This will give the Holy Spirit a time to speak.**
7. Discuss your "Think & Pray" answers. (Never force anyone to share theirs. As with the other questions, my answer is just one more opinion; you may have a better answer.)
8. Close in prayer (It is best to call on others to pray, but try to get their permission ahead of time.)
9. Fellowship (Leave this as open ended as possible for the time and place you meet.)

Depending on the number of people, each lesson is expected to take about one hour. Steps 4 thru 7 are about half of that. If you take longer, let each lesson take more than one meeting, or consider breaking into two groups. If you take less time, extra questions are provided for discussion called "For Further Thought"

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**Lesson 1 – Road to Emmaus** (Luke 24:13-35)

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[1A] Luke 24:13 How far is it from Jerusalem to Emmaus? \_\_\_\_\_

[1B] Luke 24:14 About how long do you think it takes to walk from Jerusalem to Emmaus?  
\_\_\_\_\_

[1C] Luke 24:15-16 When Jesus was explaining the Old Testament; did they know who He was? \_\_\_\_\_

[1D] Luke 24:17 What did Jesus ask them? \_\_\_\_\_

[1E] Luke 24:18-24 What were they talking about? \_\_\_\_\_

[1F] Luke 24:25-27 What did Jesus show them? \_\_\_\_\_

[1G] Luke 24:28-31 What was Jesus doing when their eyes were opened and they recognized Him?  
\_\_\_\_\_

[1H] Luke 24:32 What happened to them while the Scriptures were being explained?  
\_\_\_\_\_

[1I] Luke 24:33-35 What did they do? \_\_\_\_\_

[1J] Can you think of any examples of what He might have said to them in Luke 24:27?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**The Back Pew** - Jeff Larson



Jesus takes a post resurrection stroll 'incognito' on the road to Emmaus. **Luke 24:13-35**

**Lesson 1 – Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35)**

[1A] Luke 24:13 How far is it from Jerusalem to Emmaus? Seven Miles

[1B] Luke 24:14 About how long do you think it takes to walk from Jerusalem to Emmaus?

I'm guessing about 3 hours

[1C] Luke 24:15-16 When Jesus was explaining the Old Testament to them, did they know who He was? No

[1D] Luke 24:17 What did Jesus ask them? What they were talking about

[1E] Luke 24:18-24 What were they talking about? The death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ

[1F] Luke 24:25-27 What did Jesus show them? What the Old Testament said about Him

[1G] Luke 24:28-31 What was Jesus doing when their eyes were opened and the disciples recognized Him? Breaking bread See also Luke 24:35

[1H] Luke 24:32 What happened to them while the Scriptures were being explained?

Their hearts burned

[1I] Luke 24:33-35 What did they do? Went and told the disciples what had happened. (Mark 16:12)

[1J] The New Testament is connected to the Old Testament in at least seven ways:

- (1) God the Father, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit behaved in the Old Testament just as they do in the New Testament. Deuteronomy 6:4 & 1 John 5:5-8
- (2) The Old Testament has many "types" of Jesus Christ and a few of other prominent New Testament characters. Romans 5:14
- (3) The New Testament reports the fulfillment of many Old Testament prophecies, mostly with regard to the Messiah. Zechariah 12:10 & John 20:25. Also prophecies of His second coming appear in both Testaments and confirm one another.
- (4) The New Testament uses the Old Testaments for examples, both good and bad, like a preacher might give sermon illustrations. The New Testament uses the Old Testament to explain and justify the doctrines taught by Jesus and the Apostles. Exodus-Deut & 1 Corinthians 10:1-13
- (5) The New Testament demonstrates that God keeps His word by showing how He kept the promises made in the Old Testament. Hebrews 11:13
- (6) Just like the woman at the well and the thief on the cross and others in the New Testament people talked to Our Lord throughout the Old Testament. Exodus 33:11
- (7) The Old Testament gives us some of the necessary context to understand the customs and laws of the people at the time of Jesus Christ and the early Apostles.

We have a series of courses called "The Road to Emmaus" which focuses on just these connections where the Old Testament and New Testament enlighten each other.

**For further thought:**

(1k) Look up the scriptures referenced in my answer to 1J above and see if you agree that they demonstrate the points I made.

(1l) Noah is mentioned eight times in the New Testament. Look at these five places in context and see a number of different ways the same Old Testament figure can be used to make various points in the New Testament. Luke 3:36, Luke 17:26-27, Hebrews 11:7, 1 Peter 3:20 & 2 Peter 2:5

(1m) The New Testament quotes or alludes to the Old Testament hundreds of times. A New American Standard Bible puts quotes of the Old Testament found in the New in SMALL CAPS. Cross references that many Bibles have in the margin or at the bottom of the page will also reveal these connections. Look some of these up and study them.

**Lesson 2 – On the Beach** (John 21:1-25)

To make better sense of this chapter you need to know that "the disciple that Jesus loved" was John the Apostle, the author of this book. Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[2A] John 21:1-3 How many fish did they catch? \_\_\_\_\_

[2B] John 21:4 Did the disciples recognize Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

[2C] John 21:5 How did Jesus address them? \_\_\_\_\_

[2D] John 21:6 When He told them to fish off the right side of the boat, what did they do?  
\_\_\_\_\_

[2E] John 21:7 When John told Peter it was the Lord, what did Peter do?  
\_\_\_\_\_

[2F] John 21:8 About how far out were they? 100 \_\_\_\_\_

[2G] John 21:9-11 Did Jesus already have some fish? \_\_\_\_\_

[2H] John 21:12-14 Did the disciples recognize Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

[2I] John 21:15-17 How many times did Jesus ask Peter if he loved Him? \_\_\_\_\_

[2J] John 21:18-19 What was this prophecy about? \_\_\_\_\_

[2K] John 21:20-23 What was Jesus *not* talking about? \_\_\_\_\_

[2L] John 21:24 What did the author know? \_\_\_\_\_

[2M] John 21:25 How much of what Jesus did is included in this book? \_\_\_\_\_

[2N] John 21:15-17 Why did Jesus ask Peter the same question three times?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_

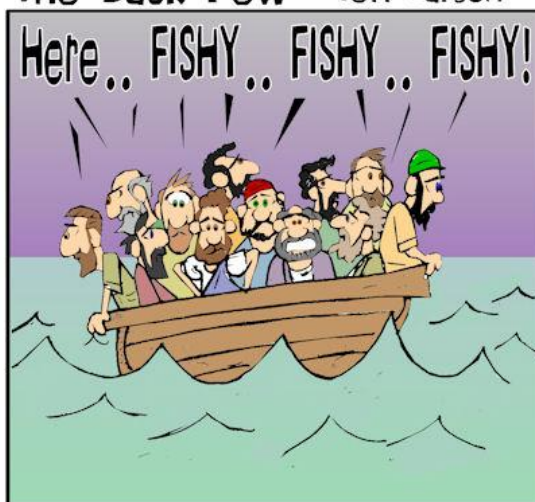
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**The Back Pew** – Jeff Larson



RUB-A-DUB-DUB.. Eleven disciples in a tub .. and finding NO FISH. **John 21**

**Lesson 2 – On the Beach** (John 21:1-25)

To make better sense of this chapter you need to know that "the disciple that Jesus loved" was John the Apostle, the author of this book.

[2A] John 21:1-3 How many fish did they catch?

None. This is how they earned a living, it wasn't just for fun

[2B] John 21:4 Did the disciples recognize Jesus? No

[2C] John 21:5 How did Jesus address them? Children

[2D] John 21:6 When He told them to fish off the right side of the boat, what did they do?

Fished off the right side

[2E] John 21:7 When John told Peter it was the Lord, what did Peter do?

Got dressed and threw himself in the sea.

[2F] John 21:8 About how far out were they? 100 yards

[2G] John 21:9-11 Did Jesus already have some fish? Yes

[2H] John 21:12-14 Did the disciples recognize Jesus? Yes

[2I] John 21:15-17 How many times did Jesus ask Peter if he loved Him? Three

[2J] John 21:18-19 What was this prophecy about? Peter's death

[2K] John 21:20-23 What was Jesus *not* talking about? The length of John's life

[2L] John 21:24 What did the author know? That the author was telling the truth. It was a form of oath like our "I swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth."

[2M] John 21:25 How much of what Jesus did is included in this book? A tiny fraction

[2N] The Bible doesn't say why Jesus asked Peter three times, but most people who have studied it conclude that Jesus was trying to get a different answer, which He finally did. It is not obvious in English but there are two different words for love being used here – *agape* = love shown in actions, and *phileo* = a feeling of great affection. Briefly:

Do you *agape* me? Yes, I *phileo* you. Feed My sheep.

Do you *agape* me? Yes, I *phileo* you. Feed My sheep.

Do you *agape* me? Yes, I *agape* you. Feed My sheep.

Do you love the Lord Jesus Christ? What are you doing about it?

**For further thought:**

(2o) Thinking about John 21:1-8: How do you have a conversation at 100 yards?

(2p) In John 21:4 they did not know Him, but in John 21:12 they did know Him. Was this because they had gotten close enough to see Him or because of the way He fed them, similar to the way the disciples on the road to Emmaus recognized Him in Luke 24:35?

(2q) Thinking about John 21:7: How did John recognize Him? Why did Peter need John to tell him Who He was?

(2r) Why do you suppose John included the detail of how many fish were caught in John 21:11?

(2s) Thinking about John 21:4-6: If they did not know Who He was, why did they follow His advice about where to cast their nets?

(2t) Thinking about John 21:9-10: If Jesus already had fish, why did He tell them to bring theirs?



**Lesson 3 – Road to Damascus** (Acts 1:9-11, Acts 9:1-19)

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[3A] Acts 1:1-5 What baptism were they to expect? \_\_\_\_\_

[3B] Acts 1:6-8 How far will we carry our testimony of Jesus Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

[3C] Acts 1:9-11 Which direction did Jesus go? \_\_\_\_\_

[3D] Acts 8:1-3 What was Saul doing? \_\_\_\_\_

[3E] Acts 9:1-4 What did Jesus ask Saul? \_\_\_\_\_

[3F] Acts 9:5-9 Did Saul obey Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

[3G] Acts 9:10-14 Why didn't Ananias want to go to Saul? \_\_\_\_\_

[3H] Acts 9:15-16 What did Jesus call Saul? \_\_\_\_\_

[3I] Acts 9:17-19 What fell from Saul's eyes? \_\_\_\_\_

[3J] Acts 9:3-6 How many questions did Saul ask? \_\_\_\_\_

[3K] Acts 22:6-21 How many questions did Saul ask? \_\_\_\_\_

[3L] Acts 26:12-19 How many questions did Saul ask? \_\_\_\_\_

[3M] Acts 9:5 What did Jesus call Himself? \_\_\_\_\_

[3N] Acts 22:8 What did Jesus call Himself? \_\_\_\_\_

[3O] Acts 26:15 What did Jesus call Himself? \_\_\_\_\_

[3P] There are a number of differences in the three accounts of Paul meeting Jesus on the road to Damascus in Acts 9:1-19, Acts 22:6-21, and Acts 26:12-19. Why?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**The Back Pew – Jeff Larson**



and .. Saul is stopped by the first TRAFFIC LIGHT on the road to Damascus. **Acts 9:1-6**  
3rd degree 'SON'burn as Jesus speaks to Saul through the light.

**Lesson 3 – Road to Damascus** (Acts 1:9-11, Acts 9:1-19)

- [3A] Acts 1:1-5 What baptism were they to expect? Baptism of the Holy Spirit
- [3B] Acts 1:6-8 How far will we carry our testimony of Jesus Christ? The remotest part of the earth
- [3C] Acts 1:9-11 Which direction did Jesus go? Heavenward
- [3D] Acts 8:1-3 What was Saul doing? Putting Christians in prison
- [3E] Acts 9:1-4 What did Jesus ask Saul? "Why are you persecuting Me?"
- [3F] Acts 9:5-9 Did Saul obey Jesus? Yes
- [3G] Acts 9:10-14 Why didn't Ananias want to go to Saul? Fear
- [3H] Acts 9:15-16 What did Jesus call Saul? Chosen instrument of Mine
- [3I] Acts 9:17-19 What fell from Saul's eyes? Something like scales
- [3J] Acts 9:3-6 How many questions did Saul ask? One
- [3K] Acts 22:6-21 How many questions did Saul ask? Two
- [3L] Acts 26:12-19 How many questions did Saul ask? One
- [3M] Acts 9:5 What did Jesus call Himself? Jesus
- [3N] Acts 22:8 What did Jesus call Himself? Jesus the Nazarene
- [3O] Acts 26:15 What did Jesus call Himself? Jesus

[3P] Each account was to a different audience at a different time and place. Anyone has ever spoken in public very often knows that you adjust your message depending on the audience, the venue, and the time available. The differences are in the amount and kind of detail. There are no contradictions. The original Greek has no quote marks and the ancients put no value on the difference between an exact quote and just giving the gist of the meaning.

**For further thought:**

- (3r) Saul/Paul met the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus and it completely changed his life forever. How, when and where did you meet the Lord Jesus Christ and what difference has it made in your life?
- (3s) Thinking about Acts 20:35: This quote of Jesus is not found in the gospels. How did Paul know about it? (Hint: Galatians 1:11-12)
- (3t) Thinking about Acts 23:11: Was this in a dream or when Paul was awake? Does it matter? Do you think God speaks to us in our dreams? Why or why not?
- (3u) Thinking about Acts 22:17: Does God still speak to people when they are in a trance? Has He ever spoken to you that way?
- (3v) What did you learn in this course that you would like to remember?
- (3w) If someone asked you what this course was about, what would you tell them?
- (3x) What scripture from this course would be best to memorize? Why?