



## **LC STUDY GUIDE** **“UnBroken”**

The Passage: Luke 24:36-49

April 2 – April 16

### **How to use the LC Study Guide**

Hello Leaders! Thank you for your ongoing commitment to pursue Christian community and the study of Scripture that leads to life transformation in Christ and strives to serve “the other.”

These studies have been designed with the following aspects in mind:

1. To facilitate a discussion on the passage of Scripture that was preached that particular Sunday using the Inductive Bible Study Method (not necessarily on the themes of that particular sermon). In summary, this method stresses “Observation” (what the reader can see from the text), “Interpretation” (what we can learn when we study the text with various tools, commentaries, and resources), and “Application” (how we can apply the Scripture to our lives).
2. Groups using this study range from the new leader to the highly experienced. Groups themselves have their own context. This study attempts to hit the middle. The stronger studies require about an hour or two of leader preparation to contextualize this resource to the needs and personalities of your group.
3. In addition to prep time, please spend time in prayer during preparation and before and after the study. It’s the power of the Holy Spirit that illuminates the Word of Scripture and we are humbled that He uses our combined efforts as part of this work. (For more tips on using this study, please see the endnotes.)

As always, we are so grateful for you, your gifting, your servant leadership and all that you do for the cause of Christ. Please let us know if we can help you in any way.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Tim, on behalf of the LC Team

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### **Introduction**

Happy Easter! The Lord has risen indeed!

If you have been following the Grace Chapel teaching series, we spent Lent reading through seven of the twelve minor prophets and exploring various themes of “brokenness.”

The Old Testament concludes with the final prophet Malachi calling out the children of Israel for their lack of commitment and his hope for Israel’s deliverance. After a period of 435 years of silence, Jesus, a new and different kind of prophet, enters the scene. While we are fast-forwarding the life and ministry of Jesus, we cannot miss that upon the cross Jesus takes on all of the brokenness of our world and of our own lives and invites us to wholeness and salvation.

# **Luke 24:36-49**

<sup>36</sup> While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

<sup>37</sup> They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. <sup>38</sup> He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? <sup>39</sup> Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”

<sup>40</sup> When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. <sup>41</sup> And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate it in their presence.

<sup>44</sup> He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> 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.”

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The context is that Jesus has been raised from the dead but the disciples have not yet seen him. Afraid they will be arrested and executed next, they are hiding in what’s likely the same upper room where they shared the last supper just before he was arrested. They are discussing their options and then the risen Jesus enters ...

**O** – Let’s spend a few moments rereading the passage. What details capture your thoughts and imagination?

**I** – Why is it so crucial to Jesus that the disciples understand that he is not a ghost? *(While that too would be out of the ordinary, the real miracle was an actual bodily resurrection of Jesus who was once dead and has now been raised to life by God the Father. This is why Jesus shows his scars and eats food with them, a demonstration of humanity, and a push-back from the ethereal and disembodied.)*

**A** – If you were one of the disciples in the room, what would have been the most essential question you would have asked Jesus that night?

**I** – Luke 26:44-46 is a complicated set of verses that have confused readers and have also been used by skeptics to refute Christianity. At face-value, Luke describes Jesus as quoting a specific Old Testament reference, yet one that likely does not exist. There are at least two possibilities of what is happening here. One is that Luke is summarizing an amazing event as briefly as possible, and as a result, all the context and details are not captured. Two, is that Luke is describing Jesus using a number of passages and giving them a Christocentric (“Christ-centered”) explanation to fulfill what the Father has promised in the Old Testament. A helpful example would be Hosea 6:2 “After two days will He revive us: on the third day He will raise us up, and we shall live before Him.” Others could be the references in the Psalms Jesus quoted from the cross (22:1) and earlier when Judas betrayed him Ps. 41:9).

What is your reaction to all that is being mentioned here?

**I** – Jesus finishes this time by telling them they are witnesses and to remain in Jerusalem until they are “clothed with power from on high.” Who and what is he referring to?

What do you think this means to the disciples gathered?

*(This is a promise of the coming Holy Spirit on Pentecost, which leads the way for the events contained in Luke’s sequel, The Acts of the Apostles.)*

**A** – How would you describe yourself now on this side of Easter? How does the true and powerful story of the Risen Jesus shape and change your thinking and actions today?

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- a. Please note that not all these questions are to be asked in a single meeting. Take some time to prayerfully discern what will serve your LC the best. Select and reword the questions that best fit your voice and your Life Community group.
  - b. Complement these questions with “process questions” (what else? what more? what do others think?)
  - c. When you ask questions, give people ample time to think and respond. Wait. Take your time; don’t rush people but encourage participation. Avoid answering your own questions!
  - d. Application: Pace the study to conclude with difference-making application.
  - e. Secondary texts—use other texts sparingly, even if they are relevant. Such texts will push you into “teaching” rather than facilitating, causing people to feel distracted or de-powered.