SUIT UP

PUT ON THE ARMOR OF GOD

What does your name mean? Why were you given that name?

Week : 11-14-21. “The Unifinished Task”

Read Together: Luke 24:36-49

Take It In

Watch today’s Video:

Talk It Over

1. Is there a project that you started but have never finished? What kept you from finishing it?

2. What daily chores or tasks do you have? How do you feel if you don’t get them all done?

3. What is something you have always wanted to try but never have? Why haven’t you tried it yet?

Live It Out

-Start by praying for someone who has been on your mind lately who does not know Jesus. Next, give them a call to see how they are doing. Really listen to them. Finally, invite them to church and lunch this upcoming Sunday. Trust the Holy Spirit's guidance in your conversation.

Going Deeper

4. Turn to Luke 24:36-37. Why does Jesus have to say “peace to you!” to the disciples? What has happened? What did the disciples do prior to this interaction? Why do you think they were frightened?

5. Look at Luke 24:38-40. Do you think that people see ghosts and spirits today? Why or why not? Why do you think it was imporant for the disciples to see Jesus’ hands and feet?

6. Look at Luke 24:41-43. Is there a difference between unbelief and disbelief? If so, what is the difference? Do you think it is important that Jesus ate a broiled fish in his disciples’ presence?

7. Look at Luke 24:44. What is meant by the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms? Do you think reading and understanding the Old Testament is necessary to know Jesus and what he has done for you? Why or why not?

8. Look at Luke 24:45. Does it seem strange to you that you would not have faith in Jesus or understand the Scriptures unless Jesus opens your mind? Think back to those moments when you had a real awakening of faith in Jesus: Who was present? Were you reading or listening to something or someone?

9. Look at Luke 24:46-47. If you had to summarize the Old Testament as one story or narrative, what would it be? Do you think that these verses are a good summary? Why or why not?

10. Look at Luke 24:48-49. What is a witness? Who have been witnesses to you of Jesus? Are you a witness? Who has God put in your life to be a witness of Jesus to? What do you think is the “promise of my Father,” that Jesus mentions here? What does it mean to be “clothed with power from on high?”

4. Prior to Jesus' resurrection, all of the disciples betrayed and fled from Jesus when he was arrested, crucified, and died. Now he has shown up in their midst! Knowing their failures and unbelief in him, they could be fearing that he would be coming to get them. Saying "peace" immediately would be a way of saying, "I mean you no harm!"

5. Following the resurrection, the disciples needed to have observable evidence of Jesus, rather than signs of an ethereal nature (ghosts, spirits), since such signs are very unreliable.

6. Unbelief is a conscious rejection of God and his Word. Disbelief means "it's too good to be true!" It is a response of surprise to a new reality, moving from unbelief toward faith.

7. The Law of Moses is the first 5 books of the Old Testament, also known as the Torah or Pentateuch. The Prophets is all of the writings of a historic nature beyond the first 5 books of the Old Testament. The Psalms are all of the poetic and wisdom writings in the Old Testament.

8. In Martin Luther's Small Catechism on the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed it states, "I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him; but the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, and sanctified and preserved me in the truth faith…"

9. Jesus himself summarizes here that the narrative of the Old Testament in its historical context throughout history has been pointing to him and his redemptive work on the cross; so that through repenance and the forgiveness of sins all may be saved by grace through faith in Christ alone.

10. God uses Christians as his witnesses in order to announce the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins to the world, and through the Gospel the Lord expands the kingdom of God. All of this is accomplished by the Holy Spirit, who is the promise of the Father and the power from on high, given to Jesus' followers in every generation.