




WELCOME

to

Fellowship

An abstract graphic design featuring a series of overlapping, fan-like bands of color in shades of red, orange, teal, and blue, radiating from the top left towards the center. On the right side, there is a large, dark blue circular shape. The text 'A TIME OF PRAYER' is centered over the graphic.

A TIME OF
PRAYER



GIVING

Offering • Stewardship • Worship

EASTER

Offering



An abstract graphic design featuring overlapping, semi-transparent bands of color in shades of red, orange, teal, and blue. These bands radiate from the top left towards the bottom right. On the right side, a large, dark blue circle is partially visible, overlapping the bands. The overall composition is layered and textured.

EASTER

SUNDAY



Easter

First Things First

Easter

First Things First

Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are **saved**, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have **believed** in vain.

I Corinthians 15:1-2

Easter

First Things First

For what I received I passed on to you as of **first importance**: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared . . .

I Corinthians 15:3-5

Easter

First Things First

Payment

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that **Christ died for our sins** (1) according to the Scriptures, that (2) he was buried (proof), that **he was raised on the third day** (1) according to the Scriptures, and that (3) he appeared (proof) . . .

Victory

I Corinthians 15:3-5

Easter

First Things First

But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith.

Romans 3:21-25

Easter

First Things First

But now **apart from the law** the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness is given **through faith in Jesus Christ** to all who **believe**. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for **all** have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and **all** are **justified freely by his grace** through the **redemption** that came by Christ Jesus. God presented Christ as **a sacrifice of atonement**, through the shedding of his blood — **to be received by faith**.

Romans 3:21-25



Easter Expectations



THREE QUESTIONS NO ONE ASKS ALOUD

PHILIP YANCEY



DISAPPOINTMENT
WITH GOD

**I found that for many people
there is a large gap between
what they expect
from their Christian faith
and what they
actually experience.**



Philip Yancey

**The Bible never
belittles human disappointment,
but it does add one key word:
temporary.**

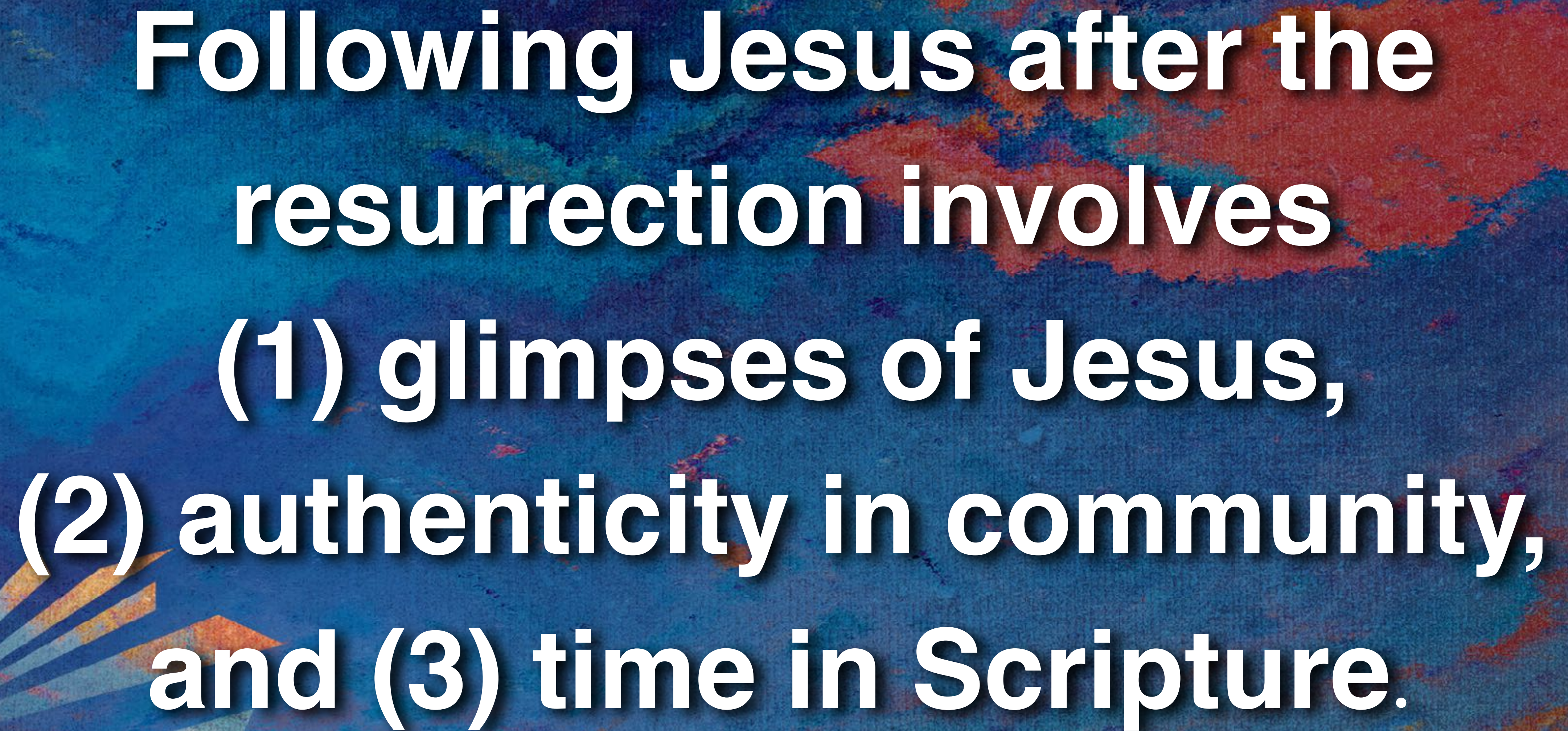


Philip Yancey

Easter

Walking with Jesus

(Luke 24:13-35)



**Following Jesus after the
resurrection involves
(1) glimpses of Jesus,
(2) authenticity in community,
and (3) time in Scripture.**

Jesus joins the journey

**An encounter with the resurrected Jesus
can turn a journey of despair
into a journey of joy.**

Luke 24:17,33-34

The Journey From Jerusalem (14-15)

Obstructed Eyes (16)

Interaction (17-18)

Summary of “the things” (19-21)

Empty Tomb and Vision (22-23a)

Jesus Is Alive (23b)

Empty Tomb and No Vision (24)

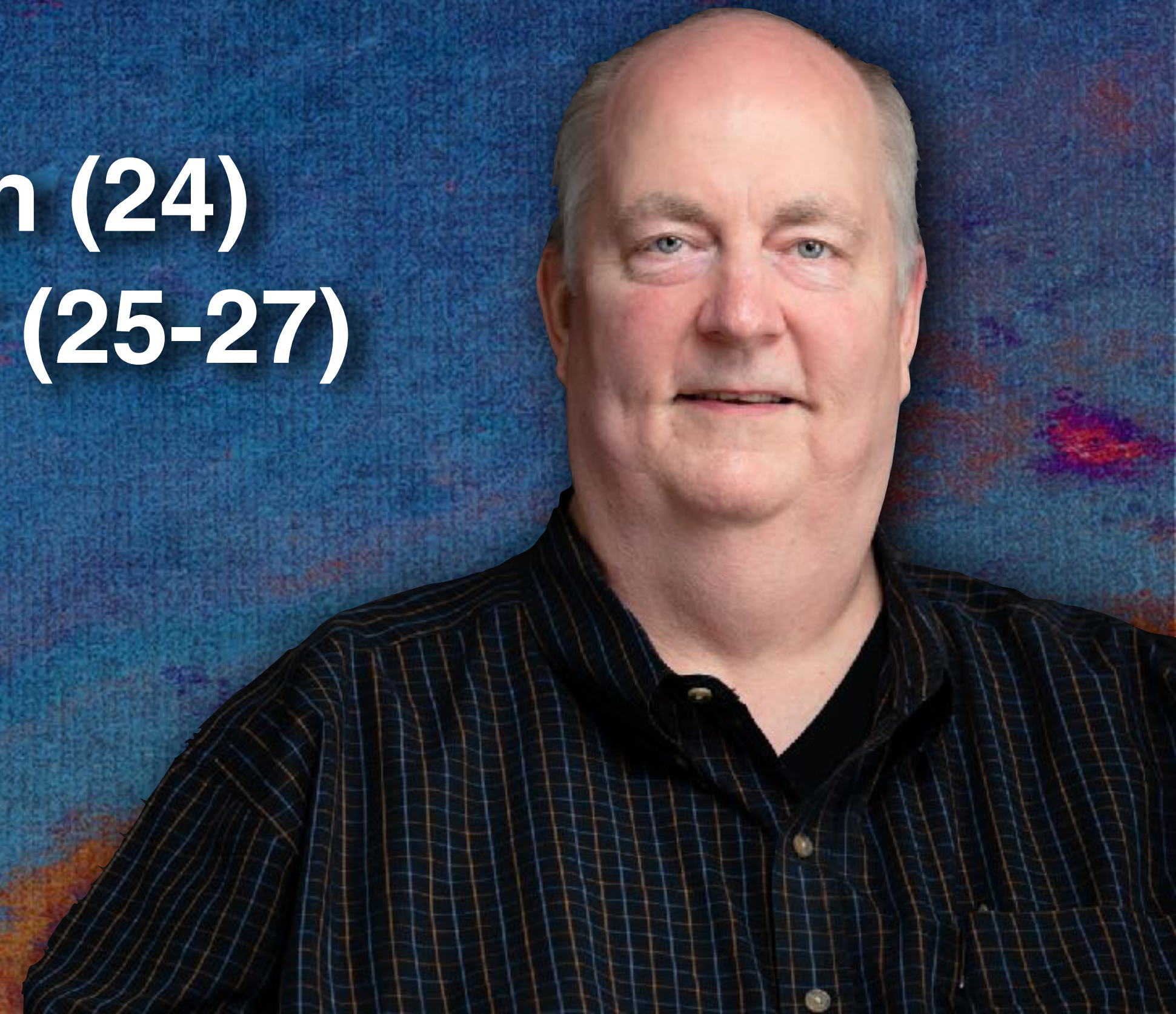
Interpretation of “the things” (25-27)

Interaction (28-30)

Opened Eyes (31-32)

Journey Back to Jerusalem (33-35)

Joel Green



Jesus joins the journey

He asked them, “What are you
discussing together as you walk along?”
They stood still, their faces downcast.

Luke 24:17

Jesus joins the journey

They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.” Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

Luke 24:33-34

**Before the day ended, however,
the darkness of their despair
would dawn with joy.**

**By the following morning,
their confusion had
turned to rejoicing.**



Chuck Swindoll

Normal Life

as a disciple Walking with Jesus

**Sight is prevented in the darkness
to grow our trust.**

Luke 24:15-16, 31

Normal Life

as a disciple Walking with Jesus

While they were talking and discussing, Jesus Himself approached and began traveling with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing Him.

Luke 24:15-16

Normal Life

as a disciple Walking with Jesus

**And then their eyes were opened
and they recognized Him;
and He vanished from their sight.**

Luke 24:31

Normal Life

as a disciple Walking with Jesus

**Our dim vision of life is clarified
when we see everything
as a part of God's plan
to glorify Jesus through suffering.**

Luke 24:17-27

Normal Life

as a disciple Walking with Jesus

He asked them,

“What are you discussing together as you walk along?”

They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?”

“What things?” he asked.

Luke 24:17-19

Normal Life

as a disciple Walking with Jesus

“About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place.

Luke 24:19-21

Normal Life

as a disciple Walking with Jesus

In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

Luke 24:22-24

Normal Life

as a disciple Walking with Jesus

He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

Luke 24:25-27

**It's all about
relationship**

**Understanding
the facts about Jesus
is a foundation for
knowing Jesus.**

Luke 24:28-31

It's all about relationship

As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them.

Luke 24:28-29

It's all about relationship

**When he was at the table with them,
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it
and began to give it to them.**

**Then their eyes were opened
and they recognized him, and
he disappeared from their sight.**

Luke 24:30-31

Some of the Lord's best visits are those we do not expect. They come at those lowest times, when a mate has walked away, when a loved one has died, when we are released from work, when the lessons of life seem unintelligible...



Chuck Swindoll

Victory out of the grave

**Often the supposed
ruin of our hopes**

is actually the fulfillment of them.

Luke 24:32

Victory out of the grave

**They asked each other,
“Were not our hearts burning within us
while he talked with us on the road and
opened the Scriptures to us?”**

Luke 24:32

**What was to them a devastating
disappointment that dashed their
private hopes actually
accomplished God's
saving purposes.**



David Garland

The Pattern

**Jesus' strategy is not
to reveal Himself in miracles
but to reveal Himself in Scripture
because we often learn
best in retrospect.**

Luke 24:32

The Pattern

They asked each other,
“Were not our hearts burning within us
while he talked with us on the road and
opened the Scriptures to us?”

Luke 24:32

True Witnesses

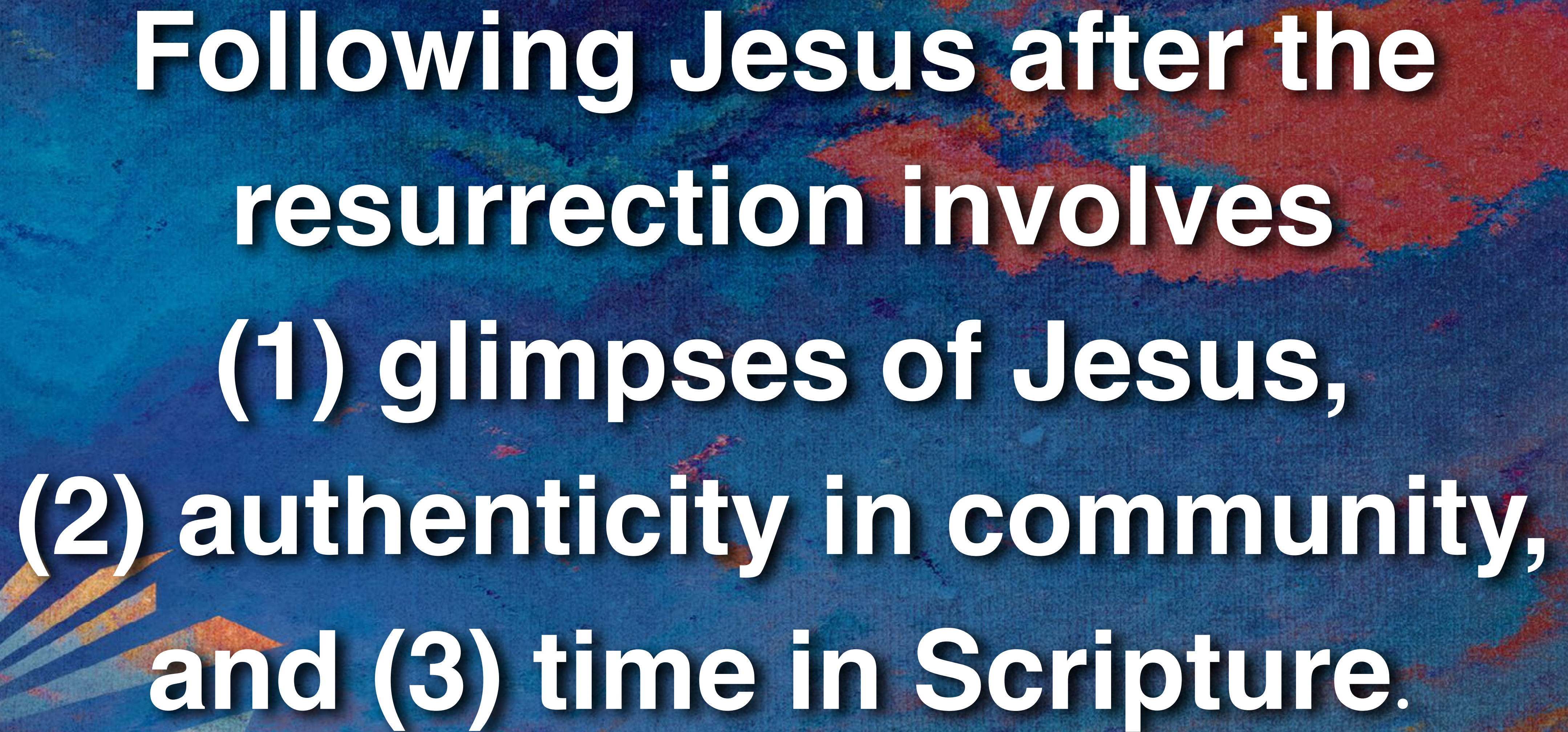
Opened eyes and burning hearts
should lead to
open mouths as witnesses.

Luke 24:33-35

True Witnesses

They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.” Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

Luke 24:33-35



**Following Jesus after the
resurrection involves
(1) glimpses of Jesus,
(2) authenticity in community,
and (3) time in Scripture.**

Next Steps:

- I will invite Jesus to join me on the journey by placing my faith in Him and his finished work on the cross validated by the resurrection.
- I will look for the hidden hand of God in my life this week.
- I will commit to a regular encounter with the Word of God in community.
- I will pray for boldness/passion in my witness.

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EASTER

SUNDAY