



EXCERPT



The Risen Christ ***Jesus' Final Words on Earth***

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Jesus' words from the cross are not Jesus' last words on earth. After his resurrection from the dead, Jesus appeared to his fearful and questioning disciples, encouraged them, and gave them his final instructions. In this eight-session LifeGuide Bible study, you will meet the risen Jesus Christ and hear his words.

New LifeGuide Bible Study: *The Risen Christ*

If you were leaving loved ones, friends, or colleagues, what last words of encouragement or farewell would you give them?

Jesus, while dying on the cross, uttered several statements that are often called "The Last Words of Jesus." During the Christian church season of Lent (the forty days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday), Christians meditate on these words, various worship services focus on them, and pastors speak on them.

- "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34)
- "Today you will be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:43)
- "Woman, here is your son. . . . Here is your mother." (John 19:26-27)
- "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46)
- "I am thirsty." (John 19:28)
- "It is finished." (John 19:30)
- "Father, into your hands, I commit my spirit." (Luke 23:46)

But his words from the cross are *not* Jesus' last words on earth.

Jesus appeared to his fearful and questioning disciples, encouraged them, and gave them his final instructions *after* his resurrection from the dead. In various settings and at different times, Jesus interacted with many of his followers to show them he was alive. His postresurrection dialogues with these women and men truly are *Jesus' last words!*

You may have questions or doubts about faith. You may have discussed spiritual topics or talked with others about Jesus. You may sometimes feel religiously locked into past concepts or socially locked out from people—even embarrassed or fearful about how others perceive you and your spiritual beliefs or questions. You may wonder, *Can Jesus really affect my life?*

Through these Bible studies, you will meet the risen Jesus Christ and hear his words. May he encounter you in your life situations, encourage your faith and trust in him, and excite you about engaging others in discussions about Jesus.

—Taken from "Getting the Most out of *The Risen Christ*"

For over three decades LifeGuide Bible Studies have provided solid biblical content and raised thought-provoking questions—making for a one-of-a-kind Bible study experience for individuals and groups. This series has more than one hundred thirty titles on Old and New Testament books, character studies, and topical studies.



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