

Bible Challenge 2014
Going Deeper – Questions for Readings
Week 46

How do you feel after reading each Gospel's version of Jesus' passion story? Why? Do they move you to respond to God in any particular way? If so, how? (Matthew 27, Mark 15, Luke 23, John 18-19)

What is unique to John's retelling of Jesus' trial, crucifixion, and passion? (John 18-19)

What is similar and different about each of the Gospel's accounts of Jesus' resurrection? How do you feel after reading these testimonies? Do they move you to respond to God in a particular way? If so, how? (Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20)

How does the Gospel of Matthew conclude? What is the "Great Commission" that Jesus gives to his disciples? Why? (Matthew 28:16-20) Why does the Gospel of Mark have two endings? How are they different? How does Jesus' commissioning to his disciples in Mark's Gospel (Mark 16:14-18) differ from the one in Matthew's? What impact do you think this has had on the development of Christianity?

In what ways does Jesus appear to his disciples after his resurrection? Why do you think these stories are so important in Christian theology? (Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20-21)

What is Pentecost? How is it different for Jews and Christians?

What types of gifts does the Holy Spirit bestow upon Jesus' disciples? What are they able to do immediately after the Holy Spirit comes upon them? How did this aid them in fulfilling their commissioning from Jesus before His ascension? (Acts 2) What gifts have you received from the Holy Spirit? How do you know? How have they assisted you in your life and ministry?

What was communal life like for members of the “Early Church”? How do we continue those practices and traditions in our church today? (Acts 2:43-47)

What does Stephen do to become the first “Christian” martyr? (Acts 7)

What does Philip do for the Ethiopian eunuch in Acts 8? What is theologically significant about this act?