

Sermon Notes on Luke 24 : 1 – 35 ‘Winner’ 2nd August 2026

Today’s story is the best one we’ve heard and seen this week for two great reasons. Firstly, we’re reminded Jesus is the Winner – he has defeated, sin, death and the devil. Secondly, as the Winner he therefore changes the ‘four’ words we’ve used to describe the four stories we had in Holiday Club this week. These ‘four’ words are ‘Be Wise’, ‘Believe’, ‘Be Amazed’ and ‘Be Mine’ and now they are no longer just words we might read in a book, as awesome as the Bible is, or we memorise because I say so. Instead, they are words which have become alive because Jesus is now speaking to you as the one who is alive, who loves you and wants each one of us to make these words our own.

Because Jesus is alive, he says to you ‘Be Wise’ in how you live. Firstly, we need to go wow because Jesus has spoken to you, but as the story of the Wise and Foolish builders tells us, we are not to just listen to Jesus, but we are to do what he says if we are to live wisely and well. The heart and soul of these next ‘three’ words is rooted in our being wise like this.

Because Jesus is alive, it is not me telling you to believe in him, it is him speaking through me who says to you ‘Believe’ in me’. He calls us to believe in him as the Messiah, the Son of God, your Friend, your Lord, the Lamb of God etc etc. To believe this is to say yes to Jesus. It is to say that from now on I will trust in you, I will love you, I will live my life following you and all that you say to me.

Because Jesus is alive, he says to you ‘Be Amazed’. We are to be amazed at just how much he loves us. He loves us this wide and this high and we know it to be true because he did not die for us, he was also raised for us from the dead and he lavishes upon us the gift of the Holy Spirit that we may know in our hearts that this is true.

Because Jesus is alive, he says to you ‘Be Mine’. He knows you by name and he says we were made to be so many things and one of these is to be in relationship with God. This was one of the many things he spoke to his friends about on that road to Emmaus.

This week has been so much fun, to hear you talk, to see you play, to hear you laugh, to see you have so much fun and to hear you laugh. It has been my immense privilege, our privilege, to do so and it has also been Jesus’ privilege too.

Holiday Club is not just for one week, like the dog advert at Christmas goes. Holiday Club is for life and all that we thought about this week is true because Jesus is alive and he is with us wherever we may go. May each and everyone of us make these words true for ourselves by saying yes to Jesus because he is the winner, he is alive, he is listening, he is waiting and he is knocking on the doors of hearts that we may open them to him and know him in all our lives. May all of us do this and say yes to Jesus.