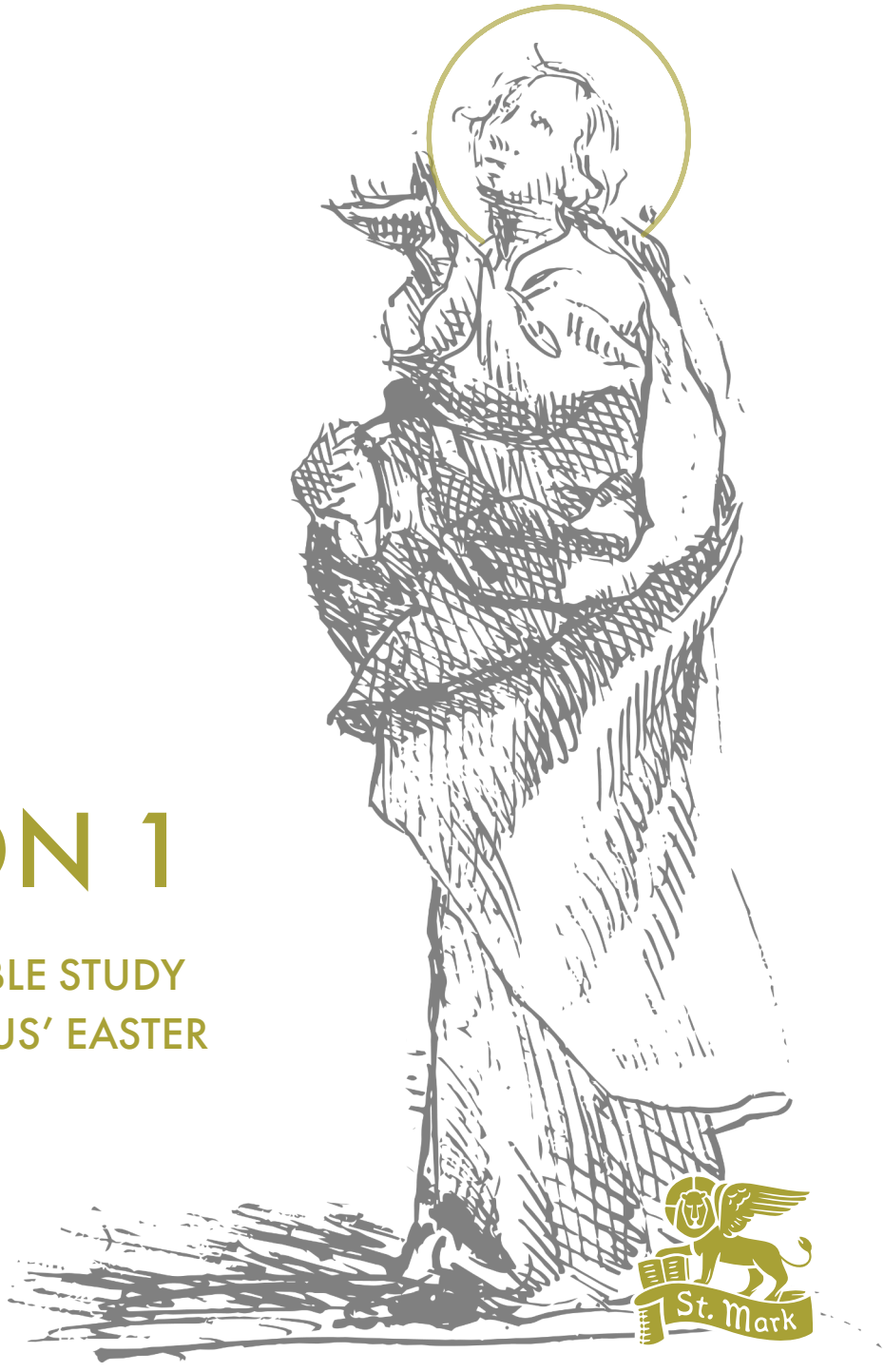
FALL 2026 BIBLE STUDY | CHURCH OF ST. MARK

THE ACTS
AND PREACHING
OF THE APOSTLES

THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST PROCLAIMED THROUGH THE FIGURES OF THE OLD TESTAMENT



SESSION 1

THE GREATEST BIBLE STUDY NEVER TOLD: JESUS' EASTER EXEGESIS

JESUS' EASTER EXEGESIS

SESSION 1

THE GREATEST BIBLE STUDY NEVER TOLD

LECTIO DIVINA

Matthew 16:13-21

13 When Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi he asked his
disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" 14 They replied,
"Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one
of the prophets." 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
16 Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living
God." 17 Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of
Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my
heavenly Father. 18 And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this
rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not
prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.
Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever
you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." 20 Then he strictly
ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Messiah. 21 From
that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to
Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the
scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.

NOTES

FALL 2026
BIBLE STUDY

SESSIONS

Oct. 13 - Carolyn Hall

Oct. 20 - Carolyn Hall

Oct. 27 - Carolyn Hall

Nov. 3 - Carolyn Hall

Nov. 10 - Carolyn Hall

Nov. 17 - Carolyn Hall
with potluck dinner

FORMAT

7pm | Opening

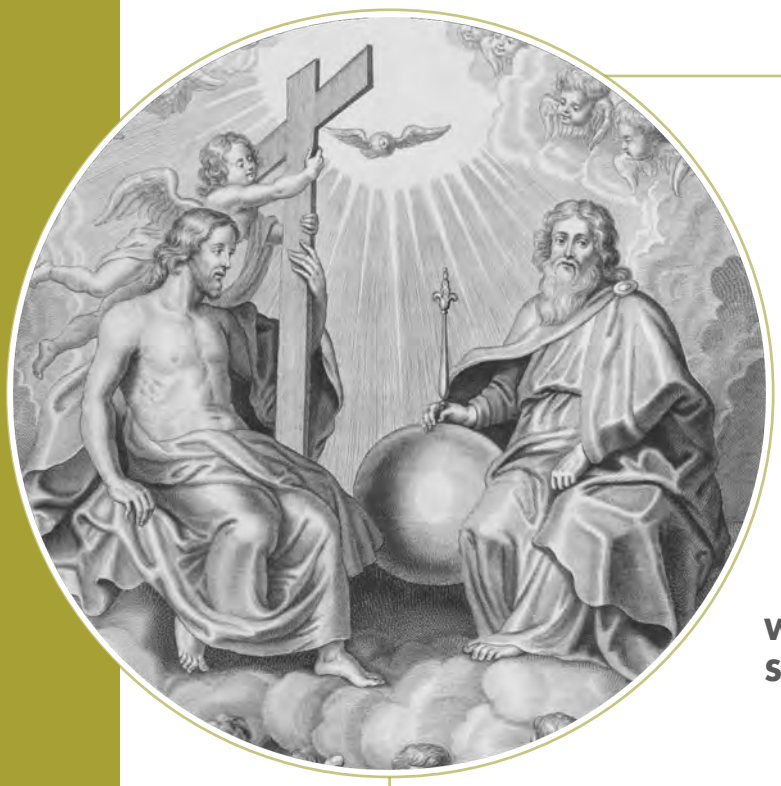
Lectio Divina

Study

Q & A

Small group discussion

8:30 pm | Closing



ON THE IMPORTANCE – OF KNOWING – WHO JESUS IS

JOHN 17:3

And **this is eternal life**, that **they know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ** whom thou hast sent.

1 JOHN 4:15

Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

ROMANS 10:9

Because, **if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord** and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, **you will be saved.**

THE GREATEST BIBLE STUDY NEVER TOLD

Luke 24:13-35 | The Walk to Emmaus

13 That very day two of them were going to a village named Emma'us, about seven miles
from Jerusalem, 14 and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. 15
While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with
them. 16 But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 And he said to them, "What is
this conversation which you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still,
looking sad. 18 Then one of them, named Cle'opas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor
to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" 19 And
he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who
was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20 and how our chief
priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. 21 But we
had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third
day since this happened. 22 Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were
at the tomb early in the morning 23 and did not find his body; and they came back saying
that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. 24 Some of those who
were with us went to the tomb, and found it just as the women had said; but him they did
not see." 25 And he said to them, "O foolish men, and slow of heart to believe all that the
prophets have spoken! 26 **Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" 27 And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.**

28 So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He appeared to be going
further, 29 but they constrained him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the
day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. 30 When he was at table with them,
he took the bread and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. 31 And their eyes were
opened and they recognized him; and he vanished out of their sight. 32 They said to each
other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened
to us the scriptures?" 33 And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem; and they
found the eleven gathered together and those who were with them, 34 who said, "The Lord
has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" 35 Then they told what had happened on the
road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Luke 24:44-49 | The Easter Evening Lectio Divina

44 Then he said to them, **"These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still
with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and
the psalms must be fulfilled."** 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the
scriptures, 46 and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the
third day rise from the dead, 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be
preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these
things. 49 And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city, until
you are clothed with power from on high."

NOTES

"EVERYTHING WRITTEN ABOUT ME..."



"... IN MOSES"

ACTS 3:12 | PETER'S SPEECH IN TEMPLE

12 And when Peter saw it he addressed the people, "Men of Israel, … you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, 15 and killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses… now, brethren, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. 18 But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ should suffer, he thus fulfilled. 19 Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, 20 and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, 21 whom heaven must receive until the time for establishing all that God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old. **22 Moses said, 'The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet from your brethren as he raised me up. You shall listen to him in whatever he tells you. 23 And it shall be that every soul that does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed from the people.'** 24 And all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and those who came afterwards, also proclaimed these days.



Deut 18:15 | Moses said to the people "The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brethren—him you shall heed— 16 just as you desired of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God, or see this great fire any more, lest I die.' 17 And the Lord said to me, 'They have rightly said all that they have spoken. 18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brethren; and I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. 19 And whoever will not give heed to my words which he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.



John 1:19 | And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" 20 He confessed, he did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." 21 And they asked him, "What then? Are you Eli'jah?" He said, "I am not." **"Are you the prophet?"** And he answered, "No." 22 They said to him then, "Who are you?

NOTES

"... AND THE PROPHETS"

ACTS 8 | PHILIP AND THE ETHIOPIAN EUNUCH

26 But an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that
goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert road. 27 And he rose and went. And
behold, an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a minister of the Canda'ce the queen of the Ethiopians, in
charge of all her treasure, had come to Jerusalem to worship 28 and was returning; seated in
his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29 And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and
join this chariot." 30 So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and
asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31 And he said, "How can I, unless some
one guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 Now the passage of
the scripture which he was reading was this:

"As a sheep led to the slaughter
or a lamb before its shearer is dumb,
so he opens not his mouth.
33 In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken up from the earth." [Is 53:7-8]

34 And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, pray, does the prophet say this, about
himself or about some one else?" 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this
scripture he told him the good news of Jesus.

Acts 4: The Prayer of the Church amid Persecution | 23 After their release they went back to their own people and reported what the chief priests and elders had told them. 24 And when they heard it, they raised their voices to God with one accord and said, "Sovereign Lord, maker of heaven and earth and the sea and all that is in them, 25 you said by the holy Spirit through the mouth of our father David, your servant:

"I WILL RAISE UP FOR THEM A PROPHET LIKE YOU FROM AMONG THEIR BRETHREN; AND I WILL PUT MY WORDS IN HIS MOUTH, AND HE SHALL SPEAK TO THEM ALL THAT I COMMAND HIM."



'Why did the Gentiles rage
and the peoples entertain folly?
[26] The kings of the earth took their stand
and the princes gathered together
against the Lord and against his anointed.' [Ps 2:1-2]

[27] Indeed they gathered in this city against **your holy servant Jesus** whom you anointed, Herod and Pontius Pilate, together with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, [28] to do what your hand and your will had long ago planned to take place.



DANIEL 7 | THE SON OF MAN

[13] I saw in the night visions, and behold, **with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man**, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. [14] And to him was given dominion and glory and kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

Matthew 24:62 | And the high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" [63] But Jesus was silent. And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." [64] Jesus said to him, **"You have said so. But I tell you, hereafter you will see the Son of man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven."** [65] Then the high priest tore his robes, and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. [66] What is your judgment?" They answered, "He deserves death." [67] Then they spat in his face, and struck him; and some slapped him, [68] saying, "Prophesy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?"

Acts 7: Martyrdom of St. Stephen | [54] When they heard this, they were infuriated, and they ground their teeth at him. [55] But he, filled with the holy Spirit, looked up intently to heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, [56] and he said, **"Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."** [57] But they cried out in a loud voice, covered their ears, and rushed upon him together. [58] They threw him out of the city, and began to stone him. The witnesses laid down their cloaks at the feet of a young man named Saul. [59] As they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." [60] Then he fell to his knees and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them"; and when he said this, he fell asleep.

EZEKIEL 37 | THE NEW DAVID, THE GOOD SHEPHERD

15 The word of the Lord came to me: 16 "Son of man, take a stick and write on it, 'For Judah, and the children of Israel associated with him'; then take another stick and write upon it, 'For Joseph (the stick of E'phraim) and all the house of Israel associated with him'; 17 and join them together into one stick, that they may become one in your hand. 18 And when your people say to you, 'Will you not show us what you mean by these?' 19 say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I am about to take the stick of Joseph (which is in the hand of E'phraim) and the tribes of Israel associated with him; and I will join with it the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, that they may be one in my hand. 20 When the sticks on which you write are in your hand before their eyes, 21 then say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will take the people of Israel from the nations among which they have gone, and will gather them from all sides, and bring them to their own land; 22 and I will make them one nation in the land, upon the mountains of Israel; **and one king shall be king over them all… 24 My servant David shall be king over them; and they shall all have one shepherd.** They shall follow my ordinances and be careful to observe my statutes. 25 They shall dwell in the land where your fathers dwelt that I gave to my servant Jacob; they and their children and their children's children shall dwell there for ever; and David my servant shall be their prince for ever. 26 **I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; and I will bless them and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore.** 27 My dwelling place shall be with them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 28 Then the nations will know that I the Lord sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary is in the midst of them for evermore."

Luke 1: The Annunciation of the Messiah | 30 Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, **and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, 33 and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."**

John 10: Jesus the Good Shepherd | 14 **I am the good shepherd**, and I know mine and mine know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, **and there will be one flock, one shepherd.**

NOTES

Acts 13: Paul's Address in the Pisidian Synagogue | [16] So Paul got up, motioned with his hand, and said, "Fellow Israelites and you others who are God-fearing, listen! … [32] We ourselves are proclaiming this good news to you that what God promised our ancestors [33] he has brought to fulfillment for us, their children, by raising up Jesus, as it is written in the second psalm, 'You are my son; this day I have begotten you.' [34] And that he raised him from the dead never to return to corruption he declared in this way, **'I shall give you the benefits assured to David.' "**

ACTS 15 | THE COUNCIL OF JERUSALEM

[13] After they had fallen silent, James responded, "My brothers, listen to me. [14] Symeon has described how God first concerned himself with acquiring from among the Gentiles a people for his name. [15] The words of the prophets agree with this, as is written:

[16] 'After this I shall return
and rebuild the fallen hut of David;
from its ruins I shall rebuild it
and raise it up again,
[17] so that the rest of humanity may seek out the Lord,
even all the Gentiles on whom my name is invoked.
Thus says the Lord who accomplishes these things,
[18] known from of old.' [Amos 9:11-12, LXX]

"… AND PSALMS"

ACTS 2 | PETER'S PENTECOST SERMON

[14] Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed to them, "… [22] You who are Israelites, hear these words. Jesus the Nazorean was a man commended to you by God with mighty deeds, wonders, and signs, which God worked through him in your midst, as you yourselves know. [23] This man, delivered up by the set plan and foreknowledge of God, you killed, using lawless men to crucify him. [24] But God raised him up, releasing him from the throes of death, because it was impossible for him to be held by it. [25] For David says of him:

'I saw the Lord ever before me,
with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.
[26] Therefore my heart has been glad and my tongue has exulted;
my flesh, too, will dwell in hope,
[27] because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld,
nor will you suffer your holy one to see corruption.
[28] You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence.' [Psalm 16:8-11]

[29] My brothers, one can confidently say to you about the patriarch David that he died and was buried, and his tomb is in our midst to this day. [30] But since he was a prophet and knew

that God had sworn an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants upon his throne, [31] he foresaw and spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that neither was he abandoned to the netherworld nor did his flesh see corruption. [32] God raised this Jesus; of this we are all witnesses. [33] Exalted at the right hand of God, he received the promise of the holy Spirit from the Father and poured it forth, as you both see and hear. [34] For David did not go up into heaven, but he himself said:

'The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand
[35] until I make your enemies your footstool."' [Ps 110:1]
[36] Therefore let the whole house of Israel know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

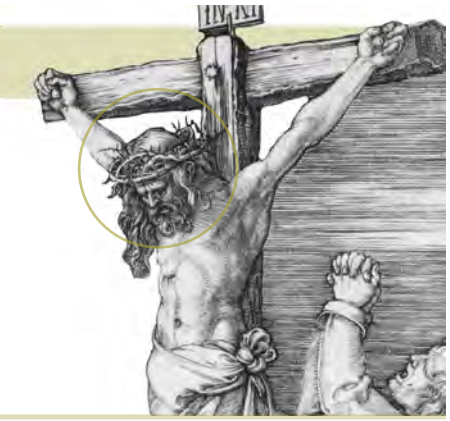
Mt 22:41 | Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, [42] saying, "What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." [43] He said to them, "How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,

[44] 'The Lord said to my Lord,
Sit at my right hand,
till I put thy enemies under thy feet'?

[45] If David thus calls him Lord, how is he his son?" [46] And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did any one dare to ask him any more questions.

Acts 13: Paul's Address in the Pisidian Synagogue | [16] So Paul got up, motioned with his hand, and said, "Fellow Israelites and you others who are God-fearing, listen! … [32] We ourselves are proclaiming this good news to you that what God promised our ancestors [33] he has brought to fulfillment for us, their children, by raising up Jesus, as it is written in the second psalm, 'You are my son; this day I have begotten you.'= And that he raised him from the dead never to return to corruption he declared in this way, 'I shall give you the benefits assured to David.' "

PSALM 22 | THE GREAT PASSION PSALM



[17] Dogs surround me;
a pack of evildoers closes in on me.
They have pierced my hands and my feet
[18] I can count all my bones.
They stare at me and gloat;
[19] they divide my garments among them;
for my clothing they cast lots.

John 19:23 | When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four shares, a share for each soldier. They also took his tunic, but the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top down. [24] So they said to one another, "Let's not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it will be," in order that the passage of scripture might be fulfilled that says:

"They divided my garments among them,
and for my vesture they cast lots."

Acts 5:27-32: Peter's speech to the Sanhedrin *(following pattern of Ps 22)* **|** [27] When they had brought them in and made them stand before the Sanhedrin, the high priest questioned them, [28] "We gave you strict orders did we not? to stop teaching in that name. Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and want to bring this man's blood upon us." [29] But Peter and the apostles said in reply, "We must obey God rather than men. [30] The God of our ancestors raised Jesus, though you had him killed by hanging him on a tree. [31] God exalted him at his right hand as leader and savior to grant Israel repentance and forgiveness of sins. [32] We are witnesses of these things, as is the holy Spirit that God has given to those who obey him."

BIG TAKEWAYS

- Jesus entrusted to the apostles the authoritative meaning of the Scriptures, according to which He Himself is the fulfillment and end of all that was written.
- That interpretation was not itself written down in its entirety, but is preserved in the preaching of the apostles and the Church (the unwritten Tradition).
- Nevertheless, the books of the New Testament, and especially the Acts of the Apostles, channel aspects of that authoritative interpretation, in the recorded instances of apostolic preaching.
- Even so, if one wants to know what the Scriptures mean, and therefore who Jesus is, he or she has to come to the Church!



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who do you say that Jesus is? Does anything from the lesson tonight help you understand the Person of Jesus better?
2. Given how important it was, why wouldn't Jesus have someone (like Luke!) write down the whole "Easter Bible Study" Our Lord gave?
3. A prophet like Moses. A shepherd like David. The suffering Servant. The Son of Man. The divine and royal Messiah. Which biblical motif for Christ do you find most illuminating or fascinating?