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5 Things the Disciples Did After Easter¹

“...*The kingdom of God has come near to you.*” Luke 10:9

We’ve heard the Easter story so many times that we often think we know everything about it. But there are some aspects that are not widely known about the actions Jesus’ disciples took in the days and weeks after the resurrection.

1. The disciples were skeptical. The Gospel records are clear: many of Jesus’ closest followers were openly skeptical of the early reports of the resurrection. Some of the disciples had doubts even *when they saw Jesus with their own eyes*. **What does that mean for us today? It means that Christians should acknowledge any skepticism we encounter about our Christian testimony: study the Word, pray for understanding and believe in the Sovereign God!** We are told in 1 Peter 3:15, “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.”

2. They broke bread in Jesus’ memory. A story related briefly in Mark and at length in Luke concerns two followers who had an encounter with the risen Jesus near the village of Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. The disciples did not recognize the risen Jesus but invited Him to eat with them. At the table, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and, Luke says, the disciples’ eyes were opened. They reported the incident to the entire community, saying that Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of the bread ([Luke 24:12-35](#)). **Christians should also observe the Memorial of the Last Supper as a reminder of Jesus’ death, burial and resurrection for the remission of our sins.**

3. They searched the Scriptures. With a few exceptions, the earliest followers of Jesus were devout Jews, steeped in the traditions and laws of their ancestors. Acts describes how the apostles, particularly Peter, explained in great detail the meaning of passages in the Hebrew Bible and how the disciples explained Jesus’ life and mission. **In 2019 we, too, should be like the residents of Berea who received the Gospel message with great eagerness but “searched the scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true”** ([Acts 17:11](#)).

4. They took care of the sick. Most of the miracles attributed to Jesus in the New Testament were miracles of healing. One of the first things the gospel of Mark says about Jesus is that He was a healer: “Jesus healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons” ([Mark 1:34](#)). **Since then Christians have been involved in medical mission work – building hospitals and establishing medical organizations such as the Red Cross.** The original hospital for the sick in Paris, France, the Hôtel-Dieu, first opened in AD 651 and still operates today in the very same location.

5. They invited others into their fellowship. Jesus instructed His followers to “make disciples of all nations” ([Matthew 28:19](#)). Within weeks of Easter, Jesus’ followers were inviting everyone who would listen into their fellowship. **Likewise, the Lord calls us to go spread the Gospel to a dying world.** “For there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” Acts 4:12. **AMEN.**

¹ https://www.faithgateway.com/5-surprising-things-jesus-followers-easter/#.XL4ek_1Ybcc

“*And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*” *Matthew 28:18 – 20*

