

# New Possibilities Are Waiting for You

*Hope Rising Series | Luke 24:1–12*

What would it feel like to wake up one morning expecting the same ordinary day — and instead encounter something that changes everything? That's exactly what happened on the first Easter morning. And it's still happening today.

In Luke 24:1–12, a group of women set out on a familiar path — bringing spices to finish preparing Jesus's body for burial. They had a plan. They knew what came next. But when they arrived at the tomb, everything had changed. The stone was rolled away. The body was gone. And two men in gleaming clothes stood before them with a question that echoes across 2,000 years of history:

***"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here.  
He is risen."***

The resurrection isn't just a historical event we celebrate once a year. It's an invitation — to you, right now — into brand new possibilities.

## **New Possibilities Arise on Familiar Paths**

When life falls apart, most of us go on autopilot. We do what we know. We follow the path in front of us. The women in Luke 24 were doing exactly that — grieving, yes, but still getting up, still doing A, B, and C.

But here's what's remarkable: it was on that ordinary, familiar path that the extraordinary broke through. They weren't on a mountaintop. They weren't in a moment of spiritual ecstasy. They were just doing what needed to be done — and the resurrection showed up.

You don't have to be in a perfect place for God to meet you. You just have to keep walking. New possibilities have a way of appearing exactly where you least expect them — on the most familiar roads.

## **Stepping Into New Possibilities Requires Some Wrestling**

When the women ran back to tell the disciples what they'd seen, the disciples didn't believe them. Luke uses a striking Greek word — *lēros* — to describe their reaction. It means foolish, idle talk. Nonsense. Even the apostles, the pillars of the early church, struggled to accept what was right in front of them.

And honestly? That's okay. Stepping into new possibilities isn't always clean or easy. Sometimes it requires wrestling — with doubt, with grief, with the gap between what we hoped for and what we see. Peter ran to the tomb, looked inside, and walked away wondering. He didn't have it all figured out. But he went.

The key for the women was remembering. The angels asked them, "Don't you remember what he told you?" And when they remembered — when they let the truth of what Jesus had said anchor them — belief followed. That's why we come back to Scripture again and again. That's why we practice communion. That's why we gather on Sunday mornings.

When life gets foggy and the path gets murky, remembering is what gives us the footing to take the next step.

## **The Resurrection Is an Invitation to Follow Jesus Into New Possibilities**

Here's the heart of it: the resurrection isn't just about what happened 2,000 years ago. It's about what Jesus is offering you today.

Our lives are full of situations that feel hopeless. Broken relationships. Broken finances. Broken dreams. Anxiety that won't let up. Depression that clouds every morning. If you're in one of those places right now, Jesus is speaking directly to you: "I'm offering you hope in a hopeless situation. I'm offering you life where it seems like there's only death."

That relationship you think can't be healed? He says it can. That door you think is permanently closed? He says it doesn't have to be. The resurrection is a living, breathing invitation to a different kind of future.

## So How Do You Step Into New Possibilities?

**1. Recognize the call.** Just as Jesus called his followers throughout the Gospels with two simple words — "Follow me" — he's still calling today. Whoever you are, wherever you are, there is a call on your life. The first step is simply recognizing it's there.

**2. Answer the call.** Recognizing the call is not enough. Stepping into new possibilities requires actually moving — even if you're uncertain, even if you don't have it all figured out. The early church called themselves "followers of the way" because they understood that following Jesus is a journey, not a destination. You don't have to have all the answers to start. You just have to go.

**3. Join the group chat.** Following Jesus was never meant to be done alone. The church exists because we need each other — people to pray with us, walk with us, and remind us of the truth when the path gets muddy. When you're struggling, you need people who can say, "I'm with you. Let's do this together." Don't try to walk this road by yourself.

## Your Story Isn't Over

The women at the tomb thought the story was over. The disciples thought it was over. But God had other plans. He always does.

Whatever you're carrying into this season — whatever feels broken, stuck, or finished — the resurrection says otherwise. There is hope. There is life. There are new possibilities waiting on the other side of whatever you're facing.

The question is: will you recognize the call, answer it, and take the next step?