

Luke 24: 1 – 12

'More spacious living – Resurrection living'

There is a story in the Celtic tradition:

A man once asked: 'What do you gain by regularly praying to God?' The man replied: 'Nothing ... but let me tell you what I lost: anger, ego, greed, depression, insecurity and fear of death.'

Sometimes the answer to our prayers is not gaining but losing, which ultimately is the gain.

This follows the pattern set by Jesus ... He was the one who taught us that:

'Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains but a single seed ... but if it dies, it yields much fruit.'

If Jesus had died but not risen – the Christian faith would not be a living experience of Jesus with us. We would not know that God's love will always win out over hatred.

And so – going back to that Celtic story – here is a clue for resurrection living? Dying to some things – attitudes, habits ... and then, with the Holy Spirit we discover more spacious living. Freedom to become the people God longs for us to be.

Jesus' resurrection is described as the **'first-fruits'** ... this is not only about life through and beyond death – but also about living in resurrection power and love now.

What do you ... what do I ... need to lose in order to be able to live more fully with Christ today?