



Session 7: The Promise Fulfilled  
Suggested Week of Use: April 12, 2015  
Core Passages: Luke 24:19-35

## **News Story Summary**

March 11, 2015 marked the 4 year anniversary of the magnitude 9 earthquake and tsunami that was the worst recorded disaster to hit Japan. In the wake of the disaster many lost hope for the future of their businesses and lives. Although it seemed hopeless in the immediate days after; 4 years later hope has begun to return and businesses and individuals are rebuilding.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the sentence “3/11 tsunami in Japan; 4 years later.”)

## **Focus Attention**

As the group arrives draw their attention to a question you have written on a marker board.  
Write: Have you ever found yourself facing a hopeless situation that transforms into a hopeful one?

Say: On March 11, 2015 Japan commemorated the fourth anniversary of the devastating earthquake and tsunami. The aftermath of the tsunami caused hopelessness as residents began to rebuild in the weeks and months that followed. As the rebuilding began and improvements began to materialize, the residents in these areas are once again hopeful for their future.

Transition: Like hope is being rebuilt in Japan, the disciples also felt hope arise as they spent time with Jesus after the resurrection. Challenge the group to look for ways hope are expressed in today Bible passage.

## **Challenge**

After reminding the group of the rebuilding that is taking place in Japan after it faced a devastating natural disaster, lead them in a discussion how they can build their faith in Jesus Christ by remembering the times when His impact was very clear.

Lead group members to share some examples of when Jesus made Himself known to them. Encourage the group to always remember the work God has done in their lives and to trust that the promises Jesus made (and were made all throughout scripture) are true.

Prayer: Pray for the group to always remember the hope we have in Jesus Christ and times that Jesus made Himself known in big ways thought our lives. If there were specific examples shared, do not hesitate to mention them.