

**Series:** What Did You Expect?  
**Title:** Unmet Expectations  
**Date:** November 18/19, 2017  
**Speaker:** Phil Vaughan

**Big Idea:** We all know what it's like for reality to fail to live up to our expectations. Often this can lead to disappointment with God. Should we simply lower our expectations to minimize disappointment? This week Phil taught how scripture can lead our expectations into alignment with God's reality.

**Passage:** Luke 24

**Discuss It:**

1. "*Expectations are resentments waiting to happen.*" - Anne Lamott  
"*If you expect nothing from anybody, you're never disappointed.*" - Sylvia Plath  
"*Expectation is the root of all heartache.*" - William Shakespeare

Most quotes about expectations we're familiar with are pessimistic. Do any of these quotations align with your own experiences of having expectations?

2. Where do you think most of your expectations about life originated? From your childhood home? From your culture? Something else? Share an example or two.
3. When you became a follower of Jesus, what expectations did you have of how your life would be? (Were there things you expected that *you* would do? Things you expected *God* would do?). Have life's trials changed your expectations?
4. **Read Luke 24:1-7.** The women were surprised to find Jesus' body missing from the tomb, even though Jesus had told them he would rise on the third day. Why do you think they weren't expecting to find Jesus risen as he had said?
5. **Read Luke 24:13-32.** Jesus' death didn't match the expectations people had for their Messiah. Yet, when Jesus explained how his suffering fit in with scripture, it all made sense in retrospect. Has God ever done something in your life that didn't make sense at the time, but later you could see how he was at work?
6. Phil challenged us to spend intentional time with God this week praying about our disappointments. How comfortable are you communicating disappointment directly to God? What disappointments will you pray about?

**Apply It:**

- What is the one thing you need to take away from this study?
- What will help you remember it?
- Is there anything that needs to change in your thinking, actions, or relationships as a result?