



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 5: Resurrected

Suggested Week of Use: April 4, 2021

Core Passage: Luke 24:1-12

News Story Summary

Moving from Denver to a small town they had never heard of in Idaho was not in Anders and Jessica Snyder's plans. The Holy Spirit guided them to help a dying church come back to life and reach its community. In 2018, they launched the replant of Calvary Church Nampa, Idaho. The neighborhoods around the once-vibrant church are now aging and declining with a mix of Anglo and Hispanic residents. Drugs are a big problem—so are poverty and depression. With a strategic outreach to get to know and serve their neighbors, the Snyders are seeing God move. More than 100 are now worshipping and growing in faith together. "We're reclaiming ground that was already once won for the kingdom. It tells the story of a resurrected Christ in that the church can come back from the dead," Anders said.

For more about this story, search "Anders and Jessica Snyder a new start".

(NOTE: video support also included at <https://www.anniearmstrong.com/resource/anders-jessica-snyder-a-new-start-for-a-dying-church/>)

Focus Attention

To supplement the Respond idea under Focus Attention, share the story of the Snyders after others have shared their "we could not believe our eyes" story. Explain that the Snyder's story is featured in this year's Annie Armstrong Missions Offering for Southern Baptist work in North America. Ask: *How does their story quality as a "we could not believe our eyes" story?* Complete the step, moving to the Transition idea.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement the Reinforce idea under Summarize and Challenge, remind the group of the Snyders. Focus on Anders' comment that the rebirth of the church points to the resurrected Christ in that the church can come back from the dead. Lead the group to identify how Jesus makes a difference in the lives of people. Encourage a volunteer to share how they came to understand their need for forgiveness and how they found that forgiveness through faith in Jesus. Inform the group that you will be available following the group time to share with anyone who wants to know more about believing in Jesus. Complete the step as written, beginning with the Review idea.