



## Study 1: Introducing Jesus: Deepen Your Faith

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### Scanning

Main Texts: Luke 1:1-4

Other Texts: 1 John 1:1-4; Colossians 2:1-5; 2 Peter 1:16-21

Readings: J. Hampton Keathley III, "Introduction to the Truth of Assurance"; and "Isn't the Bible Just a Bunch of Made Up Stories?", in Paul Williams, If You Could Ask God One Question.

Memory Verse: Luke 24:27

**Group Discussion:** The early church had a novel way of encouraging and developing faith: They simply presented Jesus. Does that surprise you? Make you more or less confident? Why?

### Going Deeper

1. What is Luke's point in describing his investigative process? What do you think of Luke's methods?

Answer the following:

- *You can't be sure about anything about Jesus. All we have is myths written centuries after Jesus was around.*
- *The early Christians just made up stories about Jesus with an agenda to promote their religion.*
- *You shouldn't take the stories of Jesus in the gospels too seriously. They are not meant to be literal.*

2. What is Luke's purpose for his gospel? Put it in your own words.

3. Is "certainty" a healthy thing or dangerous thing? Why? (Hint: What can "certain" people be like? Can we actually be certain about anything (or everything) in what we know about God?)

### Applying

4. What should your expectations be for our series in Luke? How might you get the most out of this series?

5. If you were really certain about Jesus, His power, and His love for you, how would you live different to how you are now?

6. Luke's personal research is carried out so that he can pass it on to another (Theophilus). He takes what he learns and passes it on. To what degree do you do this too in your Bible intake/growth? How would it change your personal learning if you then had to disciple someone else?