Okotoks Evangelical Free Church

Jesus is the point

Luke 24:13-27

February 16, 2020

 SERMON OUTLINE

**No outline this week.**

“What will I do on Monday, with what I have learned on Sunday?”

 Main Point

No matter the genre of Scripture, the entire Bible points to Christ.

 Thinking things through

*Connect the sermon to the study.*

**1. When you read the Bible, what are the parts that most speak to you—historical, poetry, Gospels, etc.?**

**2. What do you know about the different genres of Scripture and what do you find challenging or confusing about them?**

***Leader:*** Just as literature and film have different genres, or categories, so does the Bible. Within the Old and New Testaments, there are different genres of Bible books. There are books of poetry, history, and wisdom. There are also books of prophecy, the four Gospels, and epistles (letters) written to real churches. Though we may get bogged down seeking to understand the various genres, no matter what genre of Scripture you read, they are all used by God to tell one story: the story of Christ and His redemptive work. Every book in the Bible, whether in the Old Testament or the New Testament, points to Jesus Christ.

Digging Deeper

*Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.*

> Have a volunteer read Luke 24:13-27.

**3. As the disciples walked to Emmaus, they were talking and discussing the events of the past few days (v. 15). How might that conversation have gone?**

***Leader:*** The CSB translates verse 15 as “discussing and arguing.” Bring this idea of arguing into the discussion as you consider what this conversation might have been like.

**4. What emotions might the two Emmaus Road disciples have felt as they recounted to Jesus the events surrounding His crucifixion?**

**5. Read John 5:39. How does Luke 24:27 connect to Jesus’ conversation with the religious leaders in John 5?**

***Leader:*** These disciples were similar to the critics Jesus encountered in John 5. They studied the Old Testament Scriptures, but they had not yet realized that the Scriptures all pointed to Jesus. Going back to the beginning of the Old Testament and coming forward, Jesus explained how the entire Old Testament pointed to Him as Savior and Messiah. This includes all the genres of Scripture found in the Old Testament: wisdom literature, poetry, prophetic books, and books of history.

**6. What was the significance of Jesus interpreting the Old Testament Scriptures to these two disciples? Why might He have done this rather than revealing Himself to them directly?**

**7. What does this reveal about the importance of seeing the story of God’s redemption in the whole Bible?**

***Leader:*** To help these men understand who He is and why He came, Jesus used Scripture beginning with Moses and the Prophets to paint a more complete picture of His redemptive purposes. Presumably, He recalled sections from the Old Testament that supported His premise. Jesus drew these two disciples back to the Bible’s message about the Messiah. After citing references, Jesus interpreted for them the things concerning Himself. He used the Old Testament to remind them that glory follows suffering. The whole of the Old Testament points to God’s working out His salvation purpose that culminated with Jesus’ suffering, death, and resurrection.

> Have a volunteer read Luke 24:28-35.

**8. When have you experienced a time when your eyes were opened to the truth of who Jesus is? What brought you to that point? How has your life been different since then?**

**9. Verse 32 says the disciples hearts burned within them as they spoke with Jesus. Have you experienced feelings like this as you have read Scripture, listened to a sermon, read a book, etc.? What might make our hearts more or less attuned to these feelings?**

***Leader:*** God is calling us to move beyond knowing facts about Jesus to a place of believing and trusting Him as Savior and Lord. God still uses the proclamation and study of His Word to bring clarity to Jesus’ identity.

**10. When the disciples arrived in Jerusalem, they heard additional accounts of the resurrected Jesus. How did these two travelers and the other disciples mutually benefit from the news they shared with each other? What does this indicate about the value of seeing Jesus as the point of the entire Bible in the context of community?**

***Leader:*** The two followers found the rest of the leaders and other believers gathered together. Before the Emmaus residents reported, the others confirmed Jesus’ resurrection. They had received evidence via the eyewitness experience of Peter. Fellowship with other believers strengthens our confidence in all that we believe about Jesus, His mission, and His resurrection. The life of faith is not meant to be lived in isolation. The Holy Spirit strengthens our faith through personal interaction with other believers as we worship and work together to proclaim Christ and to carry out His mission in the world today.

 **DOING LIFE TOGETHER** *Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.***11. How does today’s study help you gain better insight into how the Old Testament Scriptures point to Jesus?**

**12. As we go through life, how can we discovery Jesus in the day-to-day and 9 to 5 of life? How can we as a group ensure our encounters are biblical and yet life changing?**

 Prayer

Thank God for giving us the Bible. Praise Him for showing us Jesus throughout the whole Bible, and for pointing to Jesus’ atoning work on the cross. Thank God for inspiring every word in Scripture, and for using it to equip and prepare us for service.

 Memorize

27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. – Luke 24:27

 **SPOTLIGHT ON THE PASSAGE** on the passage

Luke 24:13-35

24:13-14. Of the two disciples traveling from Jerusalem to Emmaus that Sunday, one was named Cleopas (v. 18). He was possibly the husband of one of the women disciples who watched Jesus die on the cross (Jn 19:25). They had heard about the women’s report and Peter’s experience at the empty tomb (Lk 24:19-24) before leaving Jerusalem.

24:15-16.That the two men were arguing (Gk suzeteo; “to argue, question”) about what had happened indicates that there was no agreement among Jesus’ disciples about what had occurred and why. Like Peter at the tomb, many were amazed and yet unconvinced. It is not known how God prevented the two disciples from recognizing Jesus at this point, but He eventually “opened their eyes” to recognize Him (v. 31).

24:17-18. The men were discouraged (Gk skuthropos; “sad, sullen”) and shocked that the stranger (Jesus) seemed to know nothing about what had happened the past few days, though it was the talk of all Jerusalem.

24:19-20. The description of Jesus by the two disciples is short on both insight and faith. Jesus is referred to in relation to His hometown (the Nazarene) and as a Prophet and miracle worker, but not as the Son of God. In addition, nothing is said about the unjust nature of Jesus’ betrayal, trials, and crucifixion—just that the chief priests and leaders got Him sentenced to death and crucified. These disciples had not fully grasped Jesus’ identity, nor had they understood the divine necessity of His death.

24:21-44. Jesus’ death had dashed these men’s hopes that He was the Messiah ( the One... to redeem Israel), but the reports from the tomb that morning astounded them and made them wonder what was going on. The reports said: (1) the women disciples didn’t find Jesus’ body at the tomb, (2) the women had seen a vision of angels proclaiming His resurrection, and (3) some male disciples had verified that the tomb was indeed empty.

24:25-29. The stranger (Jesus) rebuked the two disciples for not believing the OT prophecies about the Messiah, particularly about His suffering and following glory. Then, during the remainder of the walk to Emmaus, Jesus worked His way through all the major messianic prophecies in the Hebrew Bible ( Moses and all the Prophets refers to the entire OT), carefully interpreting their meaning to His hearers. Then, when Jesus gave the impression that He was not going to stop in Emmaus, they invited Him to spend the night with them, probably so they could hear more.

24:30-33. During the evening meal, Jesus blessed and broke the bread. At that point, the two disciples were allowed to recognize Jesus, but He immediately disappeared from sight. Their first thought was to recall the things He had taught them as they walked along the road to Emmaus. With hearts ablaze, they ventured to Jerusalem through the darkness of night to meet with the apostles and tell them about their experience.

24:34-35. Unknown to the two disciples, the risen Christ had appeared to Simon Peter (an appearance mentioned elsewhere only in 1Co 15:5) some time earlier in the day. This was a decisive event for Peter and the church because he led the apostles and the early church in the years to come. Now, in a room full of eager listeners, these men told about their experiences on the road to Emmaus and the meal that followed. It had been a day of many wonders, but an even greater wonder would soon visit them all.