

“Living The Resurrection”

Luke 24:13-35

The story of the two disciples who meet Jesus on the road to Emmaus is the second of three post-resurrection scenes in the Gospel of Luke, and all three episodes take place on the same day. The Gospel ends with the disciples filled with joy and worshipping Jesus. But in each episode there is a movement from blindness to sight, from despair to joy. In each case understanding and faith are required for them to truly begin living the resurrection. Luke 24:13-35 is the centrepiece of these three scenes, and it is told to help us grow in our understanding and experience of Jesus resurrection too.

Opening Questions – Choose one.

- Try to think of a time when you were struggling to understand something and, suddenly, the “lights came on” and everything became perfectly clear. What happened to make the difference?
- If you lost something big today (job, friend, etc), where would you go to reflect on what happened?

Study Questions

- 1) Have a few people **read Luke 24:13-35** (or assign into 4 parts using the text below).
- 2) Why does Jesus stay incognito and ask the two what they are discussing (verse 17) and “what things” had been going on lately (verse 19)?
- 3) What have the two disciples been talking about as they walk (vv.19-24)? What thoughts & feelings stand out for you as they share the details of their conversation with the stranger?
- 4) Look again at verses 25-27. What tone do you think Jesus used? Is Jesus being hard on the disciples? Why or why not? What is he most concerned about?
- 5) Why was it “necessary” for the Messiah to “suffer these things and then enter his glory”?
- 6) “*Beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scripture concerning himself.*” What Old Testament stories and verses can you think of that Jesus might have used to explain how Jesus’ fulfilled the role/mission God had for the Messiah?¹
- 7) In the final verses, how do the disciples come to recognize Jesus? What part did the Scriptures play in their coming to recognize him (verses 27 and 32)?
- 8) What do you think it means that their hearts “burned within them” when Jesus opened the Scriptures to them (verse 32)? Have you ever experienced this as you read/studied the Scriptures?
- 9) What do the disciples finally come to understand? How do they respond and why?
- 10) Where is your “Road to Emmaus”—the place where Jesus surprised you recently (or when you came to believe in him for the first time)? How could you lead someone to faith like Jesus did?

¹ There are many such passages; you might want to read some verses such as Genesis 3:15; Numbers 21:6-9 [with John 3:14-15]; Deuteronomy 18:15; Psalms 22; 16:8-11; 118:22-23; Isaiah 11:1-7; 53:1-6; 61:1 [with Luke 4:18-22]; Daniel 7:13-14 [with Matthew 26:64]. See also this great three-minute video: <https://youtu.be/IGFtfqgBQkM?feature=shared>

Luke 24:13-35 (in four parts: Narrator, Jesus, *Cleopas*, **the Eleven**)

¹³ Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about eleven kilometres from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶ but they were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?”

They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸ One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, *“Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?”*

19 *“What things?”* he asked.

“About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰ The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹ but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²² In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³ but didn’t find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴ Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.”

²⁵ He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! **26** Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

²⁸ As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, *“Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.”* So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³² They asked each other, *“Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?”*

³³ They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together ³⁴ and saying, **“It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.”** ³⁵ Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.