

Wednesday, April 22

The God Who Listens

Luke 24:17, 25–27

“And He said to them, ‘What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?’ ... And He said to them, ‘O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into His glory?’ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.”

Notice the order of what Jesus does on this road. First, He asks a question. He invites the disciples to talk.

He listens to their confusion, their grief, their disappointment—all of it. Only then does He open the Scriptures and speak His truth into their situation. As Dietrich Bonhoeffer once wrote, God is the great listener who not only gives us His Word but lends us His ear.

That pattern matters. Jesus did not interrupt. He did not correct them mid-sentence.

He let them pour out their sorrow, and then He gently reoriented everything they thought they knew by taking them back to Scripture. Beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He showed them that the cross was not an accident. It was the plan all along.

This is what Jesus still does for us. He meets us in the Word. He hears our prayers—our honest, sometimes confused, sometimes frustrated prayers—and then He speaks.

He opens Scripture so that we can see Him on every page: in the promise to Adam and Eve, in the sacrifice of Isaac, in the Passover lamb, in the suffering servant of Isaiah. The whole Bible points to Jesus. And He is patient enough to listen to us before He shows us.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is it important that Jesus listened before He taught?
2. Where in the Old Testament do you see the story of Jesus most clearly?
3. How can we practice better listening in our families and in our congregation?

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for being a God who listens. You hear our prayers and You meet us in Your Word. Give us ears to hear You as You open the Scriptures to us, and give us patience to listen to one another as You have listened to us. Amen.

Family Action Item

Practice “holy listening” at dinner tonight. Let each family member share something that is on their heart without anyone interrupting or offering advice right away. After everyone has spoken, read a short passage of Scripture together and talk about what God might be saying to your family.

