COMMUNITY

April 21st, 2019: A Strangely Warm Easter

OPENING

- What did everyone do for Easter (and Spring Break, if relevant)?
- Did you grow up celebrating Easter? What was it like?
- Do you have a favorite Easter tradition? If so, what is it?

DISCUSSION

- What do you believe about the death and resurrection of Jesus? Have you always believed it?
- Read <u>Luke 24:13-35</u>.
- Have you had an experience where you thought you wanted something or were praying for something, and God didn't answer it only to later reveal something better for you?
 - This relates to how the people wanted Jesus to be king of the Jews and release them from Roman control, but He is so much more than that!
- How could it have been that these men couldn't recognize Jesus at first? Have you ever had an experience where you didn't realize until later that God was with you?
- Do you think there might be a difference between knowing that Jesus rose from the dead and knowing the resurrected Jesus?
- Have you ever learned more from being asked a question than you did from hearing an answer?
- After Jesus appeared to the two men on the road to Emmaus, he appeared to his other disciples. Read what he said to them in Luke 24:44-49.
- Has the Bible ever been mysterious to you? Any particular passages? Is there anything that you understand now that you didn't understand before?
 - Both of these passages mention Jesus helping people understand the Scriptures. What do you think that means for our lives today?
- Why did Jesus have to suffer and rise from the dead? What did that accomplish?
- What does it mean to repent? What is the relationship between repentance and relationship?

CONCLUSION

• Pray with a partner about someone in your life who doesn't know Jesus.