

Life Changing Community Group Discussion Questions

week of 4/19/26

Summary

This sermon explored the story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus from Luke 24, focusing on how Jesus revealed himself to them through Scripture and the breaking of bread. Pastor Mark noted that while we don't know the exact location of Emmaus or the identity of the unnamed disciple, this incompleteness may be intentional - allowing us to see ourselves in the story. The main message was that we encounter the resurrected Christ today in the same two ways: through God's written Word (Scripture) and through the sacrament of communion. Pastor Mark emphasized that we cannot truly know Christ without knowing the Bible, as Jesus used Scripture to reveal Himself to the disciples whose eyes were initially held from recognizing Him.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we gather together to study Your Word, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us today. Just as You opened the Scriptures to the disciples on the road to Emmaus, help us to see Jesus clearly in Your Word. Remove any barriers that might prevent us from recognizing Your presence among us. Give us hungry hearts to know You more deeply and the wisdom to apply what we learn to our daily lives. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What's your favorite meal to share with family or friends, and what makes it special to you?

Key Verses

1. Luke 24:13-35
2. Luke 24:27
3. Luke 24:30-31
4. Luke 24:32
5. Luke 22:19-20
6. John 19:25

Questions

1. Why do you think the disciples' eyes were 'held' from recognizing Jesus on the road to Emmaus? What might prevent us from recognizing Jesus in our daily lives?
2. Pastor Mark suggested that Luke may have intentionally left out details about the location and the unnamed disciple. How does this incompleteness help us relate to the story personally?

3. Jesus revealed Himself through explaining the Scriptures. How has God's Word helped you understand who Jesus is? Share a time when Scripture became particularly meaningful to you.
4. What does it mean that 'we can't know the Christ who is if we don't know the Word that reveals Him'? How does this challenge or encourage your approach to Bible reading?
5. The disciples recognized Jesus in the breaking of bread. How do you experience Jesus' presence during communion or other church practices?
6. Pastor Mark mentioned that Jesus is found 'in the written word and at the table with the community that gathers in His name.' How important is community in your spiritual growth?
7. The story emphasizes that Jesus meets us where we are. How have you experienced Jesus showing up in unexpected places or circumstances in your life?

Life Application

This week, commit to spending intentional time in God's Word with the expectation of encountering Jesus there. Choose a specific time each day to read Scripture, asking God to reveal himself to you as he did to the disciples on the road to Emmaus. Additionally, approach your next communion service with fresh awareness of Christ's presence in the sacrament.

Key Takeaways

- Jesus reveals Himself primarily through Scripture and the sacrament of communion
- We cannot truly know Christ without knowing the Bible that reveals Him
- The incompleteness of some biblical details allows us to see ourselves in the story
- Jesus meets us where we are, just as He met the disciples on their journey
- Encountering the resurrected Christ happens in community, through Word and sacrament

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for revealing yourself to us through Your Word and through the breaking of bread. Help us to be like those disciples whose hearts burned within them as You opened the Scriptures. May we not miss You when You walk alongside us in our daily journeys. Give us eyes to see You, ears to hear You, and hearts that are open to Your presence. As we leave this time together, help us to carry the reality of Your resurrection into our everyday lives, sharing the good news that You are indeed risen. In Your precious name we pray, Amen.