

The Next 40 Days – Week 2 – Luke 24:13-35 – Jesus Appears to Two Disciples on the Road to Emmaus

Luke 24:13-27: *Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles 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.*

INTRO to series “The Next 40 Days” – After He walked out of the grave on that first Easter Sunday, Jesus spent the next 40 days teaching and preparing His followers for what was coming next. As each day passed, the power of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church drew nearer. Though many were struggling with fear, failure, and doubts, Jesus cut through their confusion as light breaks into darkness. Jesus also gave some of His most important teaching during this time, including the “great commissions”—and then He ascended to heaven.

INTRO to **Luke 24:13-35:** Just after the tomb of Jesus was discovered by some of the women and men who had followed Him, Jesus then appeared to two lesser-known disciples who were traveling to the town of Emmaus, just outside of Jerusalem.

I. Jesus appeared incognito to two disciples and joined their conversation about Him. (vs. 13-24)

-These two lesser-known disciples—Cleopas and one other—were traveling from Jerusalem to their home in the town of Emmaus, discussing all the events that had happened regarding Jesus between His arrest and the discovery of the empty tomb.

-Jesus joined their conversation on the road but did immediately not reveal Himself to them. In fact, Scripture tells us they were prevented from recognizing Him at first. Nevertheless, the disciples continued their discussion with their new, third companion, even without knowing his identity.

-It's clear that these two disciples had not only misunderstood the recent events, but also the truth of Scripture. They called Jesus a "prophet," and spoke about Him in the past tense as if He were dead and as if His mission from God had failed.

-When they mentioned the empty tomb, Jesus began to correct and teach them.

II. Jesus reminded them that all Scripture points to Him. (vs. 25-27)

-As Jesus began to rebuke their lack of faith and to correct their misunderstandings, He reminded them as He had taught them that all these events had been part of the divine, eternal plan of God: *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?"*

-In **vs. 27**, one of the most amazing teaching moments in all of Jesus' ministry is described in just one sentence: *And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.*

-Rather than pointing these disciples to His miracles, His parables, or other parts of His earthly ministry, Jesus began teaching these two disciples from the Hebrew Old Testament Scripture – demonstrating that from Moses, to the Prophets, to the Psalms – all Scripture points to Him.

III. The disciples finally realized the Living Hope of Christ risen from the dead, as an awakening happened in their hearts. (vs. 28-35)

-Luke 24:28-35: *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.*

-As Jesus gave thanks and broke the bread for the meal their eyes were opened and they understood that Jesus—Christ risen from the dead—had been with them all along. Then, at that moment, Jesus disappeared from their presence.

-Though Jesus had seemed like a stranger to them for a time, they finally recognized Him as their Lord. This is, ultimately, the goal of evangelism – of sharing the Good News of Jesus with others. That for those to whom Jesus seems like a stranger, they would come to KNOW Him personally and truly as their Savior and Lord.

-As the disciples recounted what was taking place in their spirit as Jesus the Christ taught them about Himself from the Scriptures: *“Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?” (vs. 32)*

QUESTION: When was the last time you had an encounter with Jesus and the Word of God during which your heart burned within you?

-Once again, those who encountered Jesus were led by God to go and tell: They went back to Jerusalem and spread the word to the other disciples and others saying, *“It is true! The Lord has risen...”*

Other Scriptures Referenced:

Mark 16:12-13: *Afterward Jesus appeared in a different form to two of them while they were walking in the country. ¹³ These returned and reported it to the rest; but they did not believe them either.*

Psalm 16:8-11: *I keep my eyes always on the Lord.*

With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

⁹ *Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest secure,*

¹⁰ *because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,
nor will you let your faithful one see decay.*

¹¹ *You make known to me the path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.*

Other Quotes/Resources:

-“I never read this story without having the feeling that I would have given anything to travel that road and hear what Jesus had to say.” –G. Campbell Morgan: