

After Easter...What Road are You Traveling?

Read Luke 24: 13-35 (On the Road to Emmaus)

¹³Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles^(a) from Jerusalem. ¹⁴They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶but they were kept from recognizing him.

¹⁷He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸One 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. ²⁰The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹but 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. ²²In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

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

²⁸As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. ²⁹But 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.

³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³²They asked each other, "Were not our

hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?”

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

~~~~~

- Luke is narrating the scene in a way that we the reader know more than those who were walking. They didn't recognize Jesus yet Luke lets us in on his identity
- They are taking a completely human understanding of the events that had happened. In the words of Detective Joe Friday, “no spiritual insight, just the facts, ‘mam.”
- They had hoped for a different outcome to the events of the past week. Their hope for a victory over Roman oppression seemed destroyed.
- They obviously didn't acknowledge the resurrection. If so, they wouldn't have been walking away from Jerusalem but rather toward it to SEE the risen Christ
- Jesus used a history lesson to help these followers better understand the fulfillment of God's plan for the Messiah

### Reflection:

The story of the two despondent disciples on the road to Emmaus helps us identify with their pain.

We, too, are pilgrims on a journey through life.

We, too, despair of life's circumstances from time to time.

We, too, lose heart when our expectations come to a tragic end.

**But we should strive to remember ... every trial is an opportunity to discover what God wants us to see**

## Questions for pondering this week:

1. Have I truly invited God into every part of my life?
2. Do I only seek God's perspective when I study the Bible, or also when I listen to the news, before I speak to someone, go about my daily chores?
3. With my words I say I trust God, but am I willing to trust in God's timing?
4. How can I *rush **toward** my Jerusalem* this week to see the risen Christ in my life?

### Resources:

NIV Reader's Version Study Bible

YOU Version Bible App: Time of Grace, Mike Novotny, *Christ>Cornona*