

Luke 24:13-35 (New International Version)

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 only a visitor to Jerusalem and do 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 him they did not see."

²⁵He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Did not the Christ^[b] 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 acted 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.

Footnotes:

- a. [Luke 24:13](#) Greek sixty stadia (about 11 kilometers) (n.b. there is debate among scholars as to whether this represents 7 miles or 16 miles. Also there are two different archeological sites that could be Emmaus, consistent with these distances.
- b. [Luke 24:26](#) Or Messiah; also in verse 46

OASIS: On the Road to Emmaus, Luke 24: 13-35

Possible Starter question: What do you like about going for hikes/walks with friends?

Transitional comment: Well, that is what we are going to do now—take a walk/journey together. It’s just that we aren’t going to move from our seats ☺.

- Pray for the Holy Spirit’s leading (if you haven’t already prayed)
- Now let’s listen/follow along as someone reads our passage aloud.

First section (vs 13-19a):

- O What do you learn about this journey? What are the “things” that absorb their attention and conversation?
I
(n.b. Make sure that the context of “that same day” is mentioned, and help the group draw their observations just from these initial verses.)
- O How do they respond when joined by the third person?
(n.b. For the moment, God is preventing them from recognizing Jesus.)
- O What do you observe about their mood?
I How do you explain their mood? Why these feelings?

Second section (vs. 19b-24):

- O From their reply to Jesus’ question, what is it they have understood?
- O What seem to be their disappointments and confusions?
I What do you think they thought happened to the dead body of Jesus?
What might have been some of the explanations?
A If you had been there, do you think you’d have thought any differently. Why or why not?

Third section (vs. 25-29):

- O How does Jesus “grab” their attention?
- O What key insights does Jesus provide?
I How do these insights address their disappointment and confusion?
- O What do you learn about their response to Jesus’ presence and insights? (v. 29)

Fourth section (vs. 30-35):

- O What are some of the specific actions Jesus takes? (v. 30) What images and echoes might have come to their minds?
(i.e. *feeding miracles and Passover/last supper*)
- O What do you learn about their “ah-hah experience”?
- O How does their understanding and actions dramatically change?
 - I In what ways do you suspect that this was a “turning point” for their lives?

Summary/conclusion:

- I What are the big, new insights that Easter can provide for people today?
 - A What differences would you want the Easter “realities” to make in your life/our lives in our living?
 - A Conclude with prayers both of thanksgiving and dedication.

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- a. BIG idea: **we have been made for more!**
 - b. Key verse/idea: **Luke 24: 32 “Were not our hearts burning within us...”**
 - c. KEY: O = Observation; I = Interpretation; A = Application (or C = Challenge).
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Advice to study leaders:

- a. Complement your OIA questions with “process questions” (what else? what more? What do others of you see/think?)
- b. Determine the core questions you’ll ask (know which ones to skip if pressed for time.
- c. Always reword questions in language/word choice that is comfortable for you (and, if the question doesn’t make sense to you, then discard it.)
- d. When you ask questions, give people ample time to think and respond. How long do you wait? Take your time; don’t rush people but encourage their participation. And avoid answering your own questions!
- e. Timing: allocate your time and move forward gently but steadily.
- f. Pace the study—move on—conclude with “difference making” application.
- g. Secondary texts—be very sparing in your usage of other texts, even though they may be relevant. That tends to push you more into the “teaching” role, rather than the role of facilitator. It can cause some people to feel distracted or de-powered.
- h. If you are utilizing this “on-line” study and not part of the OASIS course, I recommend that you get the IVP one volume commentary entitled New Bible Commentary, Revised (21st Century Edition). It is well worth the \$40.