



## Week 8: Luke 17-24

### Study Guide for the week of Feb. 16-22

#### Personal reflection / journaling exercise

This week, spend time with Luke 24:13-34.

Only one of the two disciples walking to Emmaus has a name, Clopas, while the other remains unnamed. This week, place yourself in the unnamed disciple's sandals. Initially, the disciples were so focused on their sadness and disappointments, they didn't recognize Jesus. What disappointments and sadness are present in your life? How does sorrow and frustration blind you to God's presence in your life?

The disciples were so amazed at the report of Jesus' resurrection, they couldn't imagine it was possible. What so amazes you about Jesus' ministry, teaching, or character that you find it hard to believe it's possible, to believe Jesus is who he says he is?

Jesus spent time teaching the disciples and pointing them to the truth and meaning found in the scriptures. What truths would you like to explore in scripture so you can know God more fully? How will you go about discovering these truths?

The disciples finally recognized Jesus when they had a meal together and Jesus broke the bread – reminding the disciples of the Last Supper. When have you been surprised at Jesus' presence in your life? What reminders help you recognize Jesus working in your life?

#### Discussion starters

1. Reread Luke 17:11-19. When were the lepers healed – before they left to see the priest, on the way to the priest, or when they arrived to show themselves to the priest? What do you think they saw in Jesus that caused them to respond as quickly as they did? Why do you think only one leper returned to thank Jesus? Are faith and gratitude necessarily linked?
2. Zacchaeus may have been a “wee little man” but he learned a huge lesson (Luke 19:1-9) – what was it? Why were the crowds upset that Jesus spent time with Zacchaeus? What lesson did the crowd need to learn? When have you found yourself in Zacchaeus' place? In the crowd's place? Reread verse 10 and hear again what Jesus' mission is.
3. In Luke 22:24-30, the disciples were arguing about position and prestige when the greatest event in all of history was about to occur. Have you ever had a similar experience, worrying about details and not seeing the larger picture? Will your worries matter in one month, five years, 20 years? Make a list of important things that last and ask your group to help you remain focused on the truly important things in life.
4. The two thieves who were crucified with Jesus are a clear picture of two common responses to Jesus (Luke 24:39-43). Which thief do you most identify with? Why?

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5. The women who first heard the news of Jesus' resurrection were told to go and tell the others. But they were met with skepticism since "the story sounded like nonsense" (Luke 24:11). What have you learned about God that originally sounded like nonsense to you? What happened to change your impression? Have you been met with skepticism like the women? What could you do to help change the skeptics' impression?

**Bible verse to memorize: Luke 24:32**