

## Our Mission:

To share Christ with the world  
and grow disciples for Jesus



## Loving God and Loving Neighbor as Ourselves

### Background:

In this story we are able to eavesdrop on the basic witness of the first apostles. Jesus is the fulfillment of what was prophesized and gives life to the teachings of Moses and the Prophets. We might remember in the parable of Lazarus and the rich man, Abraham said that if they do not believe Moses and the Prophets, they won't be convinced even if someone were to rise from the dead. In this case, their hearts were converted as they heard Jesus' explanation along the road, and then their eyes were opened as they engaged in the eucharistic action of breaking bread in order to eat. Now their mouths have been opened so they might proclaim the truth of what they have heard and seen.

### Theology Connection:

It would seem as if Luke is making an argument for the real presence of Christ as communion is shared. Yes, we need to hear God's Word explained, but that is not enough. It is in the eating and drinking that we experience the reality of Christ in our lives and not just on a page in a book. As we celebrate this encounter that we are sent to proclaim this message of Good News for all.

### Application:

Many join us for worship on Easter to hear the Good News. Yet it is this Sunday following Easter that we are asked to proclaim Good News both in Word and deed. We have received Jesus' teaching and now we are challenged to become the instrument through which others might know. Jesus makes us his ambassadors through which this news is shared with the world. How does your personal encounter with the risen Christ impact your world view? How have you shared this Good News with others?

### The Text: Luke 24: 13-35

<sup>3</sup> Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem.<sup>14</sup> They were talking with each other about everything that had happened.<sup>15</sup> As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them;<sup>16</sup> but they were kept from recognizing him.

<sup>17</sup> He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still their faces downcast.<sup>18</sup> 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?"

<sup>19</sup> "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.<sup>20</sup> The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him;<sup>21</sup> 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.

<sup>22</sup> In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning<sup>23</sup> but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive.<sup>24</sup> Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

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

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

<sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them.<sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight.<sup>32</sup> 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?"<sup>33</sup> They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together<sup>34</sup> and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon."

<sup>35</sup> Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

## ADULT

Jesus used the teachings of the Hebrew Bible to educate these disciples to prepare them for their mission. Yet, most Christians are unfamiliar with but a few of the stories from the older testament. While the Old Testament is long and difficult, perhaps reading a book like Phillip Yancey's 'The Bible Jesus Read' may provide an easy entry point into the larger section of scripture. You can download a free PDF copy at: <https://sites.google.com/site/14april20sapanadilem1/bSulit20pitik6303>

## YOUTH

Please ready Luke 24:13-35

This story is a reminder that we should trust that God is at work. Even during these challenging times we are facing. He has a plan in all things.

The disciples on the road to Emmaus didn't recognize Jesus at first, and when He explained things to them, all of the pieces fell into place. We don't always recognize what Jesus is doing in our lives, but one day we will see Him face to face. Meanwhile, we can look for how He is working through us and those around us. We sometimes develop a punishment/reward mentality that would have us assume good things happen to good people, and vice versa. We wonder why we struggle or suffer and strive to give ourselves better lives. While sin is responsible for pain in the world, we should recognize that God is always in control. Because of the work of Jesus, we are promised salvation. Even though our current lives are still difficult, and we don't understand why, we can still trust that He is at work.

Let us pray: Thank you for sending your only son Jesus to give us salvation. Please help us celebrate Jesus and thank you for all he did for us. Please help us continue to trust in your even though we don't always understand what or why things are happening. In Jesus' name, Amen!

## CHILDREN'S

In today's Gospel, a couple of disciples were walking along a road. They were feeling really sad because Jesus had died. Jesus showed up and started walking beside them, but they didn't know right away that it was Him! He started asking questions about what they were discussing, and they explained how upset they were over the death of Jesus. Then Jesus started to describe to them how the prophets and Scripture had predicted what would happen. He told the disciples about Himself! Since it was getting late, they invited Jesus to stay for supper. As Jesus was breaking the bread, they suddenly realized who He was! Their eyes were wide open and filled with joyful enthusiasm! As soon as they saw who Jesus was, He disappeared! They got up and went back to Jerusalem where they found the 11 apostles and told them what had happened.

Think:

1. What did you learn from this story?
2. What is your favorite part of the story?

Remember:

We don't always recognize what Jesus is doing in our lives, but one day we will see Him face to face!

Pray:

Dear God,

Thank You that we can celebrate Jesus. Thank You for all He did for us, and all that He continues to do. Help us to trust in You, even when we don't understand what's happening. Thank You for Your love. We love You, God!

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen!