

## SERMON-BASED STUDY: CLEOPAS

**Luke 24:13-35, ESV** – <sup>13</sup> That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. <sup>16</sup> But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> And he said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. <sup>21</sup> But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. <sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, <sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.” <sup>25</sup> And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

<sup>28</sup> So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, <sup>29</sup> but they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent.” So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?” <sup>33</sup> And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, <sup>34</sup> saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

### Notes:

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- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

### QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

## ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 Cleopas said, “we had hoped.” When have you felt that “we had hoped” disappointment in your own life or faith journey?
- 2 Despite hearing reports of the empty tomb, they were still confused. How can grief and expectations prevent us from believing God’s promises?
- 3 Jesus used the Old Testament to explain to them that the Messiah was not just a conquering king, but also a suffering servant. Why was it necessary for the Messiah to suffer?
- 4 What does it mean that their hearts *burned within them*? Have you experienced this feeling while studying Scripture? Explain.

## DIGGING DEEPER

- A** **Luke 24:44-48, ESV** – <sup>44</sup> Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup> and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things.
- 5 What does it mean that Jesus *opened their minds to understand the Scripture*? How does he do this for us today?
  - 6 Jesus tells the disciples, “You are witnesses of these things.” How are we witnesses today?
- B** **John 4:28-30, 39, ESV** – <sup>28</sup> So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, <sup>29</sup> “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” <sup>30</sup> They went out of the town and were coming to him.
- <sup>39</sup> Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me all that I ever did.”
- John 9:10-12, 24, ESV** – <sup>10</sup> So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup> He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed and received my sight.” <sup>12</sup> They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

<sup>24</sup> So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.” <sup>25</sup> He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.”

**7** The Samaritan woman said, “come and see.” The blind man pointed the religious leaders to Jesus. Why is inviting people to experience Jesus for themselves more powerful than just telling them about him?

**8** How are experiential testimonies different from theological arguments? Why are they so effective?

## TAKING IT HOME

Cleopas, the Samaritan woman, and the blind man all had an encounter with Jesus that changed their lives. They did the only thing they knew to do – they told others about their experience. How does knowing your own story empower you to participate in the mission of Jesus? How can you be more intentional in sharing your own “Emmaus Road” experiences with others? Spend some time in prayer, asking God to show you what next steps you need to take as His witness to the world.

## PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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## FOR FURTHER STUDY

Isaiah 53:3-7; 61:1-2a  
Acts 1:8