

Seedling Group Questions for the 3rd Sunday of Easter
“Together on the Road”
(April 26, 2020)

The sermon can be found at www.lipstosing.wordpress.com

Questions for Opening Up

What things do you typically and your family typically do to distract yourself on a long road trip (or what do you remember doing when you were growing up)?

During this time of being locked down what trip or what kind of travel do you find yourself looking forward to when that is permitted again?

Read 1 Peter 1:17-23

What an amazing claim that Jesus Christ as the Word of God was present with God before the foundation of the world. What can it mean for us that Christ was destined before the foundation of the world?

What do you think about when you hear that we have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed through the living enduring word of God?

Read Luke 24:13-35

What do you imagine the content of Jesus opening the scriptures to the disciples may have been? What do you imagine that he said?

What do you think it would have been like to be in that room with these two disciples and the others as they rendezvoused back in Jerusalem? What would the feeling be like?

Putting Things Together

Jesus has been present with us on this journey over the last six weeks. In whom have you seen him working? How has his determination to suffer with us been seen through all this?

What stories would you like to tell or what things would you like to remember about this time years from now?

Making It Personal

This road to Emmaus story means so much to us, perhaps in part because we often look back to the past and are able to understand how God was with us when we didn't recognize it at the time. If you're able, can you make some guesses at how we will look back at this time and see Christ's presence?

New Testament Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:13-35

¹³Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But 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 took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." ²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

