

## WHAT DOES JESUS DO FOR US: OPENS OUR EYES

Luke 24:13-35

September 2, 2007 Sunday p.m.

### INTRODUCTION

- A. In a book titled, *An Anthropologist on Mars*, neurologist Oliver Sacks tells about Virgil, a man who had been blind from early childhood. When he was 50, Virgil underwent surgery and was given the gift of sight. But as he and Dr. Sacks found out, having the physical capacity for sight is not the same as seeing. Virgil's first experiences with sight were confusing. He was able to make out colors and movements, but arranging them into a coherent picture was more difficult. Over time he learned to identify various objects, but his habits—his behaviors—were still those of a blind man. Dr. Sacks asserts, "One must die as a blind person to be born again as a seeing person."

*Oliver Sacks, An Anthropologist on Mars (Vintage, 1996);*

- B. In Luke 24:13-35 we see an example of two disciples who were given sight. Not physical sight, but spiritual sight.
1. Today we continue our series called: "What does Jesus do for us?"
  2. Last Sunday we saw from Colossians 1:13-14 that he forgives us.
  3. Today lets see that he also gives us spiritual sight.
  4. Let's begin by reading out text.
  5. Notice four truths from this passage.

### I. FIRST, KNOWING ABOUT JESUS ISN'T THE SAME AS KNOWING JESUS.

- A. These disciples knew about Jesus, but not enough to recognize him.
- B. Why?
1. First, because God kept them from recognizing Jesus, perhaps to teach them a lesson.
  2. Second, because they had preconceived ideas about who Jesus was-v.19.
  3. Third, because they had very little faith-vv 22-24.
- C. Do we know Jesus or just about him?

### II. SECOND, SCRIPTURE REVEALS WHO JESUS IS.

- A. Jesus demonstrated this-v.27.
- B. This means that the Bible gives testimony concerning who Jesus is—Luke 16:31; John 1:45; John 5:46.
- C. The message for us today is that if you want to know Jesus better then know the Bible better-Romans 10:17.

### III. THIRD, JESUS REVEALS HIMSELF THROUGH FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM.

- A. This was true with these disciples-vv. 30-31.
- B. This was also true following the resurrection-Luke 24:41-43; Acts 1:4; John 21:9-15.
- C. The message for us today is Jesus reveals himself to us when we have intimate fellowship with him-Rev. 3:20. How? Daily personal devotions is one way.

### IV. FOURTH, KNOWING WHO JESUS IS LEADS US TO WANT OTHER PEOPLE TO KNOW HIM TOO.

- A. This was true with these disciples-vv. 32-35.
- B. This should be true for us too.

### CONCLUSION

- A. How's your eyesight? Not your physical eyes, but your spiritual eyes?
- B. Remember the truths we learned from these disciples who had their spiritual eyes opened.
1. Knowing about Jesus isn't the same as knowing him.
  2. If you want to know Jesus more than know the scriptures more.
  3. Intimate fellowship with Jesus results in knowing him better.
  4. Knowing Jesus must lead to sharing Jesus with others.