

Jesus Appears to Two Men on the Road to Emmaus

April 26, 2020

We're looking at stories of the resurrected Jesus appearing to different people. They had come to believe that Jesus was the "Anointed One", the Messiah come to redeem Israel. And yet, they had also seen this Messiah crucified on a Roman cross, and his body buried in a tomb. "How could this man be the one?" We could understand their feelings of confusion, disappointment, discouragement, even fear.

After the Passover, Mary goes to the tomb and the angels tell her "he is not here, he has risen!" And then she sees the resurrected Jesus and he speaks her name! Excitedly, Mary tells Peter and John; they run to the tomb and find it empty – his body is gone! They might be thinking, "a dead person cannot come back to life. What has happened?"

Today's devotional is taken from Luke 24:13-24. Two men have been in Jerusalem for the Passover and were now going home, later the *same day* that these stirrings about the risen Jesus had occurred.

Read today's section of scripture, then answer these questions:

- 1) If you were able to eavesdrop on these two disciples as they're talking (v. 13-15), what do you think you'd hear? What hopes are dashed? What plans might they be making? How do they react to this stranger?

- 2) Why do you think Jesus did this "roundabout" Bible study, rather than just revealing himself immediately?

- 3) How does the time at dinner open their eyes? Why do you think he leaves so suddenly?

4) What has happened to the other disciples that has caused them to change their minds (see v.11)?

5) Where is your "Road to Emmaus" – the place where Jesus has surprised you recently? What happened?

6) How well do you think you can explain the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, and the way a person can have a relationship with him? Try rehearsing a conversation.