

Our Story and Jesus' Resurrection

Luke 24:13-35

Soon or later most of us ask big questions like: "Why are we here?"; "Why is there so much pain and evil in the world?"; "What happens to us when we die?" There are many competing stories out there that seek to make sense of our lives, but there is only one that truly answers these questions. Today's passage reveals that the resurrection of Jesus is at the very heart of the story in which everyone in every generation is living. If we understand this story, we will be able to make sense of our lives and our lives will be forever changed. Let's take a look at this important conversation that Jesus had with two discouraged disciples on that first Easter morning.

Opening Discussion: What is your favorite kind of story?

Read Luke 24:13-35

1. What sticks out to you in this passage?
2. Place yourself in the scene of verses 13-24. What are these disciples doing, thinking, and feeling?
3. How did the men describe Jesus (v. 19-21)? What hope had they placed in Him?
4. Look at verses 25-27. Is Jesus being hard on these disciples? Why or why not? What is he especially concerned about?
5. Why do you think Jesus didn't immediately reveal himself to the men but rather instructed them about himself from the OT? Why was it vital for their faith that they understood the story of the Old Testament and how Jesus fit into it (v. 16)?

Steve said:

When Jesus explained how his death and resurrection were at the heart of God’s story, they had sensed something stirring deep within their hearts. One thing that was stirring within them was faith. Paul would later write, “Faith comes from hearing . . . the word of God.” Their eyes were opened to recognize Jesus only **after** they heard that the Messiah was going to die on the cross to pay for their sins and then be raised up on the third day! The Scriptures have done [this] for people down through the centuries. This should be a powerful encouragement to each of us. Maybe you’ve thought, “If only I had seen Jesus raised from the dead. . . then I would believe and never doubt.” Maybe or maybe not. But that experience isn’t available to us. But the thing that IS available to us is the thing that stirred the heart of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus: the Scriptures, both the Old AND the New Testaments. The story that Jesus described to them is available to us!

6. The Scriptures, the very thing that stirred the hearts of these two discouraged, confused disciples IS available to us. The very thing that began to help these two understand IS available to us. How does this affect your thinking about the need to deeply engage the Scriptures?
7. How is it possible that at times we “know” the Scriptures, but don’t really KNOW the Scriptures?

Steve said:

We’ve only scratched the surface of the story of Scripture this morning. My encouragement to you long-term is to **immerse yourself in Scripture**. The better you understand the Scriptures the better you will understand your life. Maybe you’ve heard it said that the Scriptures are like an ocean: shallow enough for a child to wade into but deep enough that you can never plunge its depths. That’s been my experience.

8. What would it mean for you to “immerse yourself in Scripture”?

Practicing the Rhythms of Rooted this Week

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Daily Devotion: We have completed our Season of Seeking. Do you have a plan for how you will continue to immerse yourself in Scripture? Having a plan is vital. Pick a book of the Bible to read. Find a reading plan on the YouVersion Bible app. Ask a more mature believer what you should do. One way or the other, have a plan to stay engaged in the Scriptures.

