

# BRIDGE-BUILDING

STARTING CONVERSATIONS THAT MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE



TRANSFORMATION  
for Adult LifeGroups

Luke 24:32; Genesis 39:1-23

MAY 16, 2018/MAY 20, 2018

## TODAY'S INITIAL TEXT

Luke 24:32, *They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"*

## FIRST THOUGHTS

We continue the amazing account, from last week, of the two guys on the road to Emmaus. As Jesus initiated a meaningful conversation with them, we see they were interested in spiritual matters. And their encounter with hearing God's Word was a life-altering experience that brought hopeful change to their outlook on life and set their feet toward a truly purposeful direction.

*So, if we discover someone is spiritually interested, what do we talk to them about?*

## OUR GOALS

1. INITIATE SPIRITUAL CONVERSATIONS
2. IDENTIFY YOURSELF
3. PLANT GOD'S WORD IN THE MIND OF OTHERS
4. FIGURE OUT THEIR CURRENT LEVEL OF SPIRITUAL INTEREST

## DESCRIBE THE EMMAUS ACCOUNT: Luke 24:13-35

Read Luke 24:13-35

JESUS \_\_\_\_\_ THEM IN CONVERSATION

THE MEN WERE \_\_\_\_\_ THE \_\_\_\_\_ TRUTH

JESUS PAINTS A MORE \_\_\_\_\_ PICTURE

THE TWO MEN EXPERIENCED THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF GOD'S LIVING WORD

## WHAT DID JESUS SAY TO THEM?

- Back to verse 27, "... beginning with Moses and the Prophets, He explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself."
  - There have been prophecies and indicators all along, from the beginning (in Genesis) regarding God's plan for rescuing us. And all of these indicators point to Jesus being that Rescuer.
    - GOD'S INTENTION: To be in real relationship with us.
    - THE PROBLEM: We have all sinned, and sins separates us from God.
    - THE SOLUTION: Jesus reveals that He has been God's rescue plan all along.

## THE BOTTOM LINE

JESUS IS THE \_\_\_\_\_ (the Messiah, the Christ)

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son" (John 3:14-18).*

## AN IMPORTANT QUESTION

- At this point, with someone who is spiritually interested, ask a personalizing question.
  - Where are you as far as believing that Jesus is the Rescuer?
  - I can hear that you understand who Jesus is, but have you trusted in Him?
- **QUESTION:** What other questions do you think would be appropriate at this time?

## AN IMPORTANT REMINDER

- For the two men on the road to Emmaus, two things made a difference:
  - Hearing the Word of God
  - The Presence of Jesus
- We are responsible for only one of those... to bring the Truth of Jesus to them... Jesus Himself, through His Holy Spirit is the real Convincer.
  - We deliver the Truth
  - The Holy Spirit convinces them of the Truth
  - Jesus talks about the Holy Spirit in John 16.
    - <sup>8</sup> *When he [the Holy Spirit] comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup> about sin, because people do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup> about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; <sup>11</sup> and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.*
    - <sup>13</sup> *But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. <sup>14</sup> He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. <sup>15</sup> All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.”* John 16:8-15
- If the person is ready to trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior... there are important elements here:
  - What are the basics of the gospel that a person needs to believe for salvation?
  - We must realize that we are sinners and that we need forgiveness. None of us are worthy under God’s standards. **Romans 3:23**  
*“For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God.”*
  - God gave us the way to be forgiven of our sins. He showed us His love by giving us the potential for life through the death of His Son, Jesus Christ. **Romans 5:8**  
*“But God demonstrates His love toward us, in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”*
  - If we remain sinners, we will die. However, if we repent of our sins, and accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, we will have eternal life. **Romans 6:23**  
*“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*
  - Confess that Jesus Christ is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead and you are saved. **Romans 10:9-10**  
*“That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”*

## **UPCOMING WEEKS:**

There will be no LifeGroups next week for Memorial Day weekend. LifeGroups will return on the following week as we begin our summer study of the Life of David from 2 Samuel. You may remember last year we spent a few months in the book of 1 Samuel. As a refresher, spend some time reading 1 Samuel to set the stage for the story. I especially suggest starting in 1 Samuel 16.

## **READ THROUGH THE BIBLE:**

**20th** - 1 Kings 6; 2 Chronicles 3; Psalm 97; Romans 1 | **21st** - 1 Kings 7; 2 Chronicles 4; Psalm 98; Romans 2 | **22nd** - 1 Kings 8; 2 Chronicles 5; Psalm 99; Romans 3 | **23rd** - 2 Chronicles 6-7; Psalm 135; Romans 4 | **24th** - 1 Kings 9; 2 Chronicles 8; Psalm 136; Romans 5 | **25th** - 1 Kings 10-11; 2 Chronicles 9; Romans 6 | **26th** - Proverbs 1-3; Romans 7