

# The Road to Emmaus

The whole Bible is all about Jesus!



**GOD'S STORY**  
THE TRANSFORMATION FOR ADULT LIFEGROUPS

Luke 24:13-27

February 2, 2020

<sup>13</sup> Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. <sup>15</sup> As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; <sup>16</sup> but they were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. <sup>18</sup> One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" <sup>19</sup> "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. <sup>20</sup> The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; <sup>21</sup> but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. <sup>22</sup> In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning <sup>23</sup> but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus." <sup>25</sup> He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

## COMMUNITY – CONNECTING WITH ONE ANOTHER

- What is your favorite movie genre: sci-fi, romantic comedy, documentary, musical, etc.?
- Within your favorite genre of movie, what is your favorite movie? Why?

Movie producers use different kinds of movie genres to tell their stories. Just as movies have genres, so does the Bible. Have you noticed that the 66 books in your Bible are divided into two halves, an Old Testament and a New Testament? Within the Old and New Testaments, there are different genres of Bible books. There are books of poetry, history, and wisdom. You have probably also noticed books of prophecy, the four Gospels, and epistles (letters) written to real churches.

No matter what genre of Scripture you read, they are all used to tell God's Story: His plan to redeem people through the person of Jesus from Genesis to Revelation. The whole Bible is all about Jesus!

## CONTENT – EXPLORING GOD'S STORY

Ask a volunteer to read Luke 24:13-27.

- Ask your group to summarize what you just read. .
- What emotions might the two Emmaus Road disciples have felt as they recounted to Jesus the events surrounding His crucifixion, which took place just days earlier?
- What observations can we make from Jesus' response to these disciples in verse 24-27?

In this passage, Jesus appeared to two unnamed disciples as they walked along the road to Emmaus. Jesus kept His identity hidden as He walked and talked with them.

These disciples studied the Old Testament Scriptures, but they had not yet realized that the Scriptures all pointed to Jesus. Going back to the beginning of the Old Testament and coming forward, Jesus explained how the entire Old Testament and its stories pointed to Him as Savior and Messiah.

Verse 27 tells us a lot – if we read the Old Testament carefully (and all other Scripture, for that matter), we can see that the Bible tells one remarkable story of how Jesus redeemed mankind through His death and resurrection.

- **Why might Jesus have done a broad Bible study with these two disciples, rather than simply revealing His identity to them immediately?**
- **What does this reveal about the importance of seeing God's Story of redemption in the whole Bible?**

### THE WHOLE BIBLE IS ALL ABOUT JESUS!

*Gospel-Centered Teaching, p. 49-51*

*\*\*Leaders, you may want to write the five words that are in bold font below on the board. You can then invite a member to read each paragraph as you consider God's Story from Genesis to Revelation.*

**Creation.** "In the beginning, the all-powerful, personal God created the universe. This God created human being in His image to live joyfully in His presence, in humble submission to His gracious authority. But all of us have rebelled against God and, in consequence, must suffer the punishment of our rebellion: physical death and the wrath of God." From the beginning, God created us to be in relationship with Him. He knew we would need a Savior to restore this relationship. Even in the first days of humanity, God promises to send one who would save us – Jesus.

**Anticipation.** "Thankfully, God initiated a rescue plan, which began with His choosing the nation of Israel to display His glory in a fallen world. The Bible describes how God acted mightily on Israel's behalf, rescuing His people from slavery and then giving them His holy law. But God's people – like all of us – failed to rightly reflect the glory of God." We will see many saviors come and go through the stories of the prophets, judges, kings, and heroes and heroines of the Old Testament. Each one was a partial deliverer, a foreshadowing of the perfect Deliverer who was still to come.

**Manifestation.** "Then, in the fullness of time, in the Person of Jesus Christ, God Himself came to renew the world and restore His people. Jesus perfectly obeyed the law given to Israel. Though innocent, He suffered the consequences of human rebellion by His death on a cross. But three days later, God raised Him from the dead."

**Proclamation.** "Now the church of Jesus Christ has been commissioned by God to take the news of Christ's work to the world. Empowered by God's Spirit, the church calls all people everywhere to repent of sin and to trust in Christ alone for our forgiveness. Repentance and faith restores our relationship with God and results in a life of ongoing transformation."

**Consummation.** "The Bible promises that Jesus Christ will return to this earth as the conquering King. Only those who live in repentant faith in Christ will escape God's judgment and live joyfully in God's presence for all eternity. God's message is the same to all of us: repent and believe, before it is too late. Confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, and you will be saved."

### COMMISSION – ENGAGING IN GOD'S STORY

Our LifeGroup is going to take a 30,000 foot view of the high points of Scripture in order to see God's Story to redeem people from Genesis to Revelation through the person and work of Jesus. In other words, we will see how the whole Bible is all about Jesus. We will look at key stories and passages, beginning in Genesis, and discuss how they point us to Jesus as Restorer, Promised Deliverer, Conquering King, and Champion. We're going to see how every story echoes His name.

- **Will you commit to join us on this journey?**

I hope you will join us next week as we learn a simple, but profoundly helpful method for you to H.E.A.R. from God personally every time you open up the Bible.

*\*\*Leaders, please take a moment to briefly share about the opportunity for your LifeGroup to join in our church wide Bible reading plan. Make sure you explain that the plan will follow along with the lessons we are studying in LifeGroup. The Bible reading plan is very manageable but also completely optional. If they decide to join you in reading, it will be super beneficial as you hold one another accountable.*

## CONTINUE TO JOURNEY THROUGH GOD'S STORY

To see a visual picture of God's Story in the Bible, visit [thebibleproject.com/all-videos/other/](http://thebibleproject.com/all-videos/other/) to watch "What is the Bible Project?" Your LifeGroup leader will also send out a reminder this week with a link for you to follow.

Connect with more resources to help you engage at [chetscreek.com/gods-story](http://chetscreek.com/gods-story).

## COMMENTARY – Luke 24:13-27

**24:13-14** Of the two disciples traveling from Jerusalem to Emmaus that Sunday, one was named Cleopas (v. 18). He was possibly the husband of one of the women disciples who watched Jesus die on the cross (Jn 19:25). They had heard about the women's report and Peter's experience at the empty tomb (Lk 24:19-24) before leaving Jerusalem.

**24:15-16** That the two men were arguing (Gk *suzeteo*; "to argue, question") about what had happened indicates that there was no agreement among Jesus' disciples about what had occurred and why. Like Peter at the tomb, many were amazed and yet unconvinced. It is not known how God prevented the two disciples from recognizing Jesus at this point, but He eventually "opened their eyes" to recognize Him (v. 31).

**24:17-18** The men were discouraged (Gk *skuthropos*; "sad, sullen") and shocked that the stranger (Jesus) seemed to know nothing about what had happened the past few days, though it was the talk of all Jerusalem.

**24:19-20** The description of Jesus by the two disciples is short on both insight and faith. Jesus is referred to in relation to His hometown (the Nazarene) and as a Prophet and miracle worker, but not as the Son of God. In addition, nothing is said about the unjust nature of Jesus' betrayal, trials, and crucifixion—just that the chief priests and leaders got Him sentenced to death and crucified. These disciples had not fully grasped Jesus' identity, nor had they understood the divine necessity of His death.

**24:21-24** Jesus' death had dashed these men's hopes that He was the Messiah (the One... to redeem Israel), but the reports from the tomb that morning astounded them and made them wonder what was going on. The reports said: (1) the women disciples didn't find Jesus' body at the tomb, (2) the women had seen a vision of angels proclaiming His resurrection, and (3) some male disciples had verified that the tomb was indeed empty.

**24:25-29** The stranger (Jesus) rebuked the two disciples for not believing the Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah, particularly about His suffering and following glory. Then, during the remainder of the walk to Emmaus, Jesus worked His way through all the major messianic prophecies in the Hebrew Bible (Moses and all the Prophets refers to the entire Old Testament), carefully interpreting their meaning to His hearers. When Jesus gave the impression that He was not going to stop in Emmaus, they invited Him to spend the night with them, probably to hear more

### OUR VISION

To be a church  
for the unchurched,  
here and around the world.

### ADULT LIFEGROUPS

Gospel-centered communities that aim to KNOW  
GOD together and BE CHANGED by Him in a  
way that will CHANGE THE WORLD.