

# E A S T E R



South Sub Church

April 5, 2026

## Easter-Disillusioned But Not Done

### Luke 24:13-33

<sup>13</sup> That same day two of Jesus' followers were walking to the village of Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> As they walked along they were talking about everything that had happened. <sup>15</sup> As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them. <sup>16</sup> But God kept them from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> He asked them, "What are you discussing so intently as you walk along?" They stopped short, sadness written across their faces. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, Cleopas, replied, "You must be the only person in Jerusalem who hasn't heard about all the things that have happened there the last few days." <sup>19</sup> "What things?" Jesus asked. "The things that happened to Jesus, the man from Nazareth," they said. "He was a prophet who did powerful miracles, and he was a mighty teacher in the eyes of God and all the people. <sup>20</sup> But our leading priests and other religious leaders handed him over to be condemned to death, and they crucified him. <sup>21</sup> We had hoped he was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel. This all happened three days ago. <sup>22</sup> "Then some women from our group of his followers were at his tomb early this morning, and they came back with an amazing report. <sup>23</sup> They said his body was missing, and they had seen angels who told them Jesus is alive! <sup>24</sup> Some of our men ran out to see, and sure enough, his body was gone, just as the women had said." <sup>25</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "You foolish people! You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures. <sup>26</sup> Wasn't it clearly predicted that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering his glory?" <sup>27</sup> Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. <sup>28</sup> By this time they were nearing Emmaus and the end of their journey. Jesus acted as if he were going on, <sup>29</sup> but they begged him, "Stay the night with us, since it is getting late." So he went home with them. <sup>30</sup> As they sat down to eat, he took the bread and blessed it. Then he broke it and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Suddenly, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And at that moment he disappeared! <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, "Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?" <sup>33</sup> And within the hour they were on their way back to Jerusalem.

### 5 fun, non-threatening Ice Breaker questions:

1. What's the longest walk you've ever taken (or a memorable road trip), and what made it memorable?
2. Have you ever been in a conversation where you completely misread what was happening—and later it all made sense?
3. If you could instantly become an expert at one kind of "explaining" (history, movies, sports, theology, fixing cars), what would you pick?
4. What's a comfort food that makes you feel at home?
5. What's one place (coffee shop, trail, room in your house) where you tend to have your best conversations?

### 10 Objective Bible study questions (observation):

1. On what day does this story take place, and where are the two disciples going? (vv. 13–14)
2. What are they talking about as they walk? (v. 14)
3. Who comes near and begins walking with them, and what is unusual about their ability to recognize Him? (vv. 15–16)
4. What question does Jesus ask them, and how do they respond emotionally? (v. 17)
5. What specific event does Cleopas say the two disciples hoped Jesus would do? (v. 21)
6. What do they report that some women said about the tomb and the angels? (vv. 22–23)

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7. What did some of the men find when they went to the tomb? (v. 24)
8. How does Jesus respond to them, and what does He begin to explain? (vv. 25–27)
9. What do the disciples urge Jesus to do as they reach the village, and what happens at the table? (vv. 28–31)
10. After recognizing Jesus, what do they do, and what do they report to the others? (vv. 32–35)

## 7 Interpretive Questions (meaning):

1. Why do you think Jesus allows them to walk in confusion before revealing Himself? What might He be doing in them? (vv. 15–16, 31)
2. The disciples say, “We had hoped...” What does that reveal about their expectations of Jesus, and how does disappointment shape their faith in this moment? (v. 21)
3. Jesus calls them “foolish” and “slow to believe.” Is He being harsh, loving, corrective—what’s the tone and purpose? (v. 25)
4. What does Jesus mean when He says the Messiah had to suffer before entering glory? How does that reframe the cross? (v. 26)
5. What is the significance of Jesus interpreting “all the Scriptures” concerning Himself? What does that suggest about reading the Old Testament? (v. 27)
6. Why might recognition happen “in the breaking of the bread”? What might Luke be highlighting about fellowship, hospitality, and presence? (vv. 30–31)
7. When they say their hearts “burned within” them, what does that imply about how God works through Scripture and truth? (v. 32)

## 7 Application questions (life response):

1. Where are you currently living in a “we had hoped...” space—disappointment, confusion, delay? How might Jesus be meeting you there?
2. These disciples didn’t recognize Jesus at first. What are some ways we miss Jesus’ presence in ordinary moments (conversations, meals, walks)?
3. What would it look like for you to invite Jesus into your discouragement honestly instead of hiding it or pretending you’re fine?
4. Jesus walked them through Scripture. What’s one practical step you can take this week to let Scripture interpret your story (reading plan, journaling, group study)?
5. The disciples urged Jesus, “Stay with us.” What does “stay with us” look like in your daily life—time, attention, habits, prayer?
6. After recognizing Jesus, they immediately went back to tell others. Who could you encourage this week with what God is teaching you?
7. What helps your heart “burn” again—worship, community, serving, solitude, Scripture—and what is one specific choice you can make to pursue that?