

Adult Vacation Bible School 2020 “Wild About Jesus”

**Encounter on the Road to
Emmaus**

Luke 24:13-35

*Palestine Missionary Baptist Church of Jesus Christ
Rev. James D. Watkins, Sr. - Pastor*

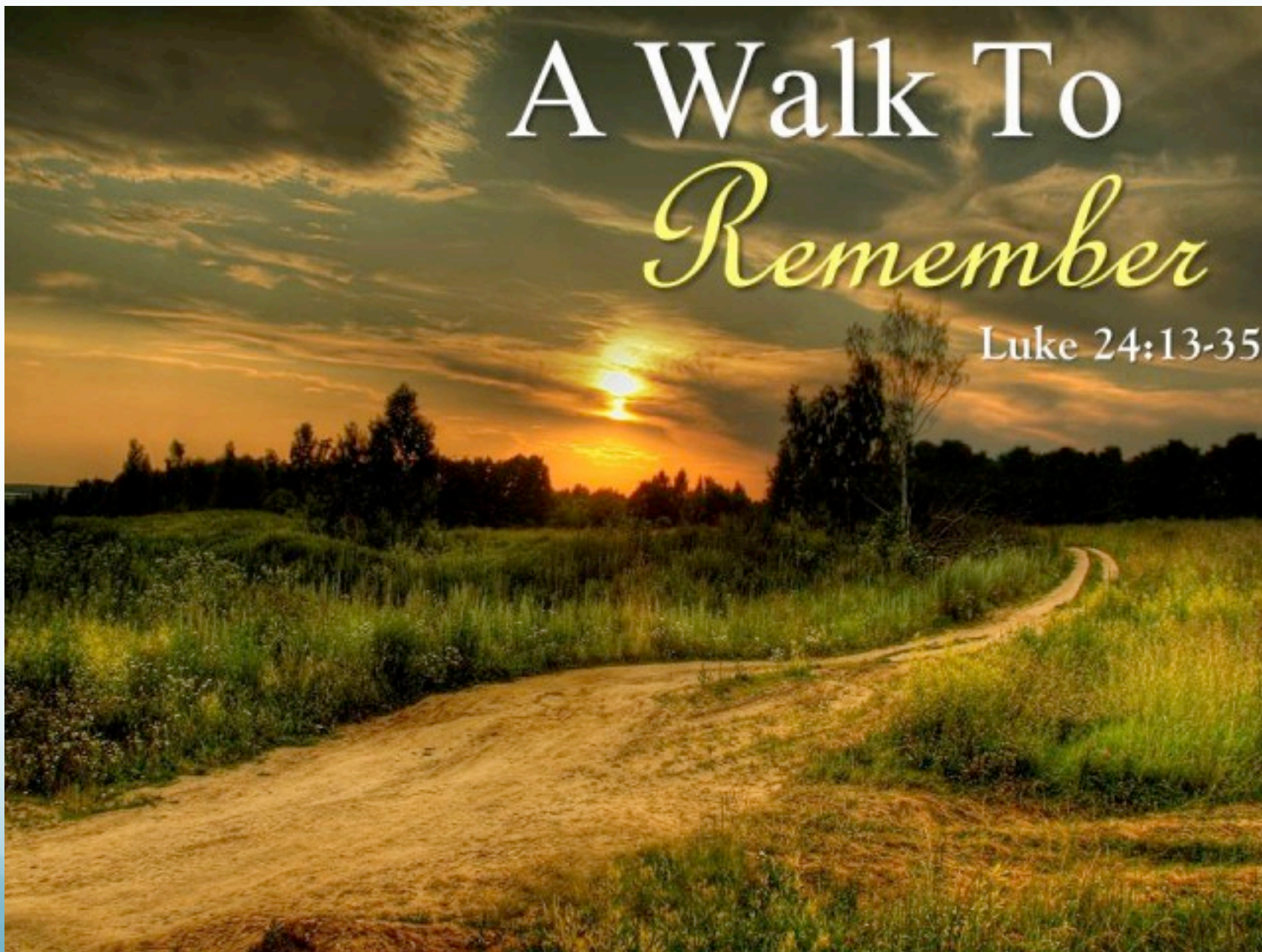
Each of our lessons across these three days have been about life changing encounters with Jesus. Every lesson has provided a snapshot of Jesus' life & provided us an opportunity to respond to the gospel.

Goals for tonight's lesson...

- Review the events that occurred on the road to Emmaus
- Explore the possible reasons as to why the disciples did not recognize Jesus on the road to Emmaus
- Rejoice in the idea that Jesus is working in our lives and opens our eyes to who He is

A Walk To *Remember*

Luke 24:13-35



Luke 24:13-35

<https://youtu.be/cOvoOU5MQY0>

Road to Emmaus

I. Jesus seeks us

Although the disciples knew who Jesus was, they did not recognize Him. They knew a lot about Him. They had heard about the things that Jesus had testified about Himself. Yet, they were not able to recognize Jesus when they met Him.



**POSSIBLE
REASONS WHY
THE DISCIPLES
DID NOT
RECOGNIZE
JESUS**

Verses 24:13-16 (NIV)

13 Now thAt same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem.

14 They were talking with each other about everything that had happened.

15 As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them;

16 but they were kept from recognizing him.

A. They lacked focus

- The disciples were more focused on their disappointments and problems
- They were walking away from the fellowship of believers in Jerusalem.
- What does this say about us? We are likely to miss Jesus and withdraw from the strength found in other believers when we become preoccupied with our dashed hopes and frustrated plans. Only when we are looking for Jesus in our midst...will we experience the power and help he can bring.

B. God did NOT want them to recognize Him

- God had a purpose in blinding their eyes from reality
- By God gradually revealing himself to them allows them to learn some lessons about trusting God's promises
- The disciples had been told about these events many times, but they had not believed

C. Events had not happened as expected

- The disciples had a preconceived idea of who Jesus was, what He had come to do, and how He should do it
- When things did not turn out like they thought they should, they dismissed the whole thing as a failure... misplaced hope and trust
- God always has a plan, and we are not always privy to that plan. When things don't turn out the way we expect, instead of giving up and admitting defeat, maybe we should be wise to see things differently, to see if maybe **God is up to something** we don't understand

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GOD has a

PLAN

Trust it,
Live it,
Enjoy it.

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D. They had little faith...

- They had heard the reports of the women who went to the tomb. They had seen the empty tomb for themselves, yet they did not believe. They had never seriously considered who Jesus was
- We have to be careful not to make the same mistake, to discount what God has done just because we can't explain it or understand it. While God often uses natural things to accomplish His will, He also does things we can't explain or understand.

They had little faith

- Just because they knew about Jesus does not mean that they knew him. Just because they could **see** him, does not mean they could **see** him.
- Many know who Jesus is, they have **heard** about Him, **read** about Him, **use** His name, and many say they **know** Him. Would they recognize Him if they saw Him?
- Their eyes have not been opened. Knowing **about** Him and **knowing** Him are two different things.

Verse 27_(NIV)

And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the scriptures concerning himself.

II. Jesus opens our eyes

- Jesus goes through a bird's eye view of the Old Testament to say that it's all pointing towards Him. It's not that every word is about Jesus but that they tell us about our sins and so our need for Jesus and a coming savior. Some passages tell us about him without telling us exactly.
- **So what does that say to us?** When you say you can't see Jesus, look to the Scriptures. When you can't see what Jesus is doing in your life or can't hear him speaking to you, look to the Scriptures. Go to the Bible. See him there.

Verse 30-31 (NIV)

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight.

Jesus reveals Himself

- During fellowship with Jesus was when He decided to reveal who He was. Jesus reveals himself to those whose eyes had been opened through the truth of His word.
- Very significant that the “great reveal” occurred around the dinner table that the disciples eyes are opened and they see just exactly who Jesus is for who He really is.
- In the intimacy of fellowship Jesus reveals Himself to us. His working in our lives becomes clearer, and His provision and protection come into focus.

Verse 32 (NIV)

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?”

Jesus moves us to share

- When your eyes are opened, you tend to want others to have their eyes opened as well
- You can imagine the excitement...Their encounter with Jesus had been emotional. It moved their hearts. Once they were moved...they could not help but share.
- Even as late and dark and dangerous as it was, they left for Jerusalem. They gave witness that Jesus was risen, that He had walked with them and talked with them, explained the scriptures to them, and broke bread at their table.

- Everyone who has experienced the risen Savior should be moved with similar emotions. All of us who have come to know him should react the same way.
- We should not be able to contain ourselves.
- John 20:29 (Jesus told Thomas)
“Because you have seen Me, you have believed. Those who believe without seeing are blessed.”



*"Open my eyes, that I
may see..."*

Psalm 119:18