

Sermon Title: Encountering Jesus on the Road Speaker: Jacqueline Snape, Executive Pastor Scripture: Luke 24:13-21, 30-31

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.

¹⁷ He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸ 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?"

¹⁹ "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. ²⁰ The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹ 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.

³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. (NIV)

Sermon Outline:

In today's scripture, we see how the people of Jerusalem forgot about the promises that Jesus had spoken over them. The people of God had put their hope in Jesus's promises and became extremely disappointed after Good Friday. So much so that their hope began vanishing with the death of Jesus, and they were not sure what to think or believe. It became hard for the people of God to keep their faith.

The road of life is long and complex and what is most important is the way in which we manage our life on this road.

Two things that we are to pay attention to as we are walking on the road:

It matters who we are walking with.

There are times when we need to make adjustments with respect to who is walking on the road with us.

In our scripture we see Jesus as he remains with the men on the road, and he transports them back to the Upper Room. The men's eyes become open, and they can truly see Jesus the Messiah. Only our Lord Jesus Christ can open our eyes this way.

It matters how we walk on the road.

There are times when we need to put aside our thoughts in order to absorb what the living God has to say to us.

Jesus allows himself to be in close contact with us. It doesn't matter if we get things wrong, or we fumble, Jesus is still with us. Jesus is still our companion on our journey, waiting for us at the end of our journey.

Jesus Christ can handle our limits, our missteps, and our mistakes. There is nothing that any of us can say or do that is going to break our connection, or separate us from the love of God, for he never goes back on his promises to his people.

Sermon Summary:

This Sunday, Jacqueline Snape, Executive Pastor, begins a new series for Eastertide titled "Encounters with the Risen Jesus". Today Pastor Jackie shares a message of Encountering Jesus on the Road and what Jesus has to say to each of us.

Sermon Questions:

- 1. How does this scripture connect for you the topic that was discussed today? What words resonate with you? Why?
- 2. In your family of origin, when you were taught about power, what type of picture or example was offer to you? Did this view of power point towards the world's standard of power or were you taught about looking to a power outside of yourself? Do you still hold the same view of power today? Journal your answers to these questions, offering them up to God.
- 3. It matters who we are walking with. Who are you walking with on your journey now? Is it social media or cable news networks or maybe you are walking with others who are in your life? Do you notice that you are absorbing their views, letting them influence the way that you are living? Who are you travelling with that you need to stop travelling with? If you are not sure of the answer to this question, be bold enough to ask God to reveal this to you.
- 4. It matters how we walk on the road. Do you spend most of your time explaining to Jesus what he needs to do and how he needs to do it? Or are you listening to hear his voice to receive his guidance for your life? What does your posture look like as you walk are you open or closed to hearing what God has to say to you? Find time to honestly write down your response.