

## How to Read Your Bible (When His Story Becomes Your Story)

Luke 24:13-35

#1 in our series "Jesus Stories"

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### Prayer

So Lord Jesus, help us to preach.

### Message

I don't know about you, but I need to say, I'm just appalled at the state of the secular media in our society today. So appalled...I may not watch it any more.

This past week I turned on the television, and the newsmen, Brian Williams and Lestor Holt, were spouting nonsense. They made no sense, and when they did make sense, the sense was self serving and braggadocios. They both undermined the institution of marriage and openly advocated salacious sexual mores. This is not good news...but terrible news...just watch:

[Brian Williams's and Lestor Holt's (news anchormen's) words are pulled out of context, strung together, and set to rap music to make up an entertaining song]

*Hip hop, the hip it, the hip it, to the hip hop hop you don't stop to rocket to the bang bang, say up jump the boogie to the rhythm of the beat...the beat. Now what you hear is not a test, I'm rapping to the beat. And me, the groove, and my friends are gonna try to move your feet. See, I am wondering and I'd like to say, hello to the black to the white, the red and the brown, the purple and yellow. But first I gotta bang bang to the hoop to the hoop say up jump, the boogie to the bang bang boogie. Let's rock. You don't stop rock the boogie that will make your body rock. Well, so far you've heard my voice but I brought two friends along, and next on the mic is my man Hank come on Hank, sing that song. [Hank begins to sing a nonsensical song] Check it out....you see I'm six foot one and I'm tons of fun, and I dress to the tee. You know, I got more toes than Mohammed Ali and I dress so viciously. Every go hotel, motel, what are you gonna do today?*

[Hanks song continues in a similar fashion.]

Brian Williams and Lestor Holt actually said those words. So I'm giving up on watching the news. Have you ever given up on reading the Bible? Maybe you think to yourself, "It makes no sense." Maybe you get past the two naked people and the freaky weird tree in the middle of the garden. Maybe you make it to Leviticus but just get utterly lost in the pages and pages of details regarding the sacrifice of goats and sheep. So you think, "It makes no sense." Or you think, "This makes terrifying sense, for God appears to be self serving, braggadocios, and mean."

He sends a bizarre God-man who calls down fire on Sodom.

He calls Joshua to commit what we would call "genocide" against Canaanite cities like Jericho.

He even tells slaves to obey their masters.

Maybe you think the Bible makes no sense, terrifying sense, or even evil sense. You know the Bible has been used to justify just about every evil imaginable. Maybe you cannot make sense of the Bible and the sense you do make or that others have made just seems evil.

But...maybe what's been done to the Bible is a little like what was done to Brian Williams and Lestor Holt by Jimmy Fallon on "The Tonight Show." Brian Williams and Lestor Holt actually said those words. I believe the God man really did call down fire on Sodom and Joshua really did commit *charam*—he devoted Canaanites to the Lord in consuming fire.

Brian Williams and Lestor Holt actually said those words, but we entirely missed their meaning. They hit those notes, but that was not their song. The Bible says those things, but maybe we've entirely missed its meaning and have not yet heard the song.

So, how do we make sense of the Bible?

1. Some think we need to discern its principles. They think the Bible is God's instruction manual for life. So if you learn the principles and apply those principles, everything will work out. Politicians love this idea because you can legislate this stuff. You see, the Bible refers to this idea as law. The Bible contains law, but it also says, "The power of sin is the law."
2. Many say the key to understanding the Bible is like secret knowledge with which you can crack its code: The Bible Code. You can find all sorts of books on numerology in the Bible—secret codes embedded in the text. A lot of end times books subscribe to this idea—secret codes embedded in prophecy, and so postulate about the identity of the antichrist and the date of Christ's return, and for 2000 years they've pretty much all been wrong.

The Bible contains law and certainly contains prophecy, and I believe it's all true. But what does it mean?

3. Some think that the key to making sense of the Bible is scholarship, and that certainly is helpful, for the Bible was written over thousands of years, in three ancient languages, by a multitude of authors, in a multitude of cultures, containing a multitude of literary genres.

As we preached a few weeks ago, the Bible claims that Jesus is the Word of God. So the Word of God is not a book. Yet, the Bible also claims it itself is an accurate written record of God's Word. Jesus himself said, "The writings (or scripture) cannot be broken."

Well, understanding the Bible obviously requires some intense and serious scholarship: languages, church history, exegesis, hermeneutics, textual criticism, and systematic theology. And yet, the Bible testifies that it was the Bible scholars (not pagans, tax collectors and prostitutes) that had Jesus nailed to a tree...according to their law, just as the prophets had predicted. It was Bible scholars that crucified the Word of God.

So how do we make sense of the Bible? Because we all feel the need for sense, for meaning, for reason, for logos (that's how you'd say it in Greek).

Leslie Weatherhead used to tell one of the most insightful stories I've ever heard: One morning, during the Luftwaffe bombing in WWII, in London, he went for a walk down a street in London to survey the damage from the night before. He found a young boy sitting on a pile of rubble, his face covered in soot and streaked with tears. Weatherhead bent down and said, "Son, where are your mother and father?" "Dead sir," replied the boy. He asked of the boy's relatives and friends. "All dead sir," replied the boy. He then asked, "Son, who are you?" The boy looked up and replied, "I ain't nobody, nothin'."

You see? His life made no sense...for he had lost his story. His story told him who he was. It included principles and laws his mom and dad had established. It included promises or prophecies of summer

vacation. It was like a song. I'm sure his mother used to sing him certain songs. My wife Susan used to sing a song to my kids and me almost every night: "I love you, a bushel and a peck, a bushel and a peck and a hug around the neck, a hug around the neck, and a bushel and a peck."

The song communicated the meaning of the story that she was writing in our lives. And you know, stories communicate persons. That's why you say to people you don't know: "Tell me your story." Well, this little boy had lost his story, and now his life had no meaning; it made no sense. And we're all a little like that orphan boy: Something absolutely horrid has happened, and we feel like we've lost our story, and we need a story to make sense of our lives.

Well, I'd like us to read the story of two men who had just lost their story and felt like "nobody nothin'," and scripture at this point made absolutely no sense.

It's a Sunday afternoon, and the Friday before, their faith, hope, and love—their story had been literally nailed to a tree...that we call a cross.

Luke 24:13-35

*That very day two of them (Two disciples we know nothing about; they could be anybody) were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing (disputing) together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. (As is blindness had a purpose) And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days? And he said to them, "What things?" (Do you really suppose Jesus doesn't know?) And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "Oh foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory? And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.*

He makes sense of all scripture.

He is the sense. He is the Logos. He is the reason. He is the melody. He is the Plot.

You know the plot gives meaning to every event in a story...

Like the melody turns notes and words into a song.

All creation is a song that God is telling with His Word.

And the Bible is the record of the story...of the Revelation of the plot.

The plot is God's Word" The plot is a person...and *HE* exegetes His own story.

You may say, "That's great but where is he today?" He said, "*Lo I'm with you always.*"

"Why don't I see him?"

Well, maybe your eyes are kept from seeing Him.

You say, "Come on, Cleopas and the other dude saw His body."  
"Where is Christ's body?"

Let's keep reading:

*And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us (literally: 'Abide with us'), for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay (abide) with them. When he was at table with them, he took bread and blessed and broke it and gave to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. (Where do you suppose He went?) ...he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord has risen indeed and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.*

Well, Cleopas and his companion didn't make sense of the Bible, but Jesus himself used the Bible to make sense of Cleopas and his friend. They didn't apply the Bible to their lives, but Jesus used the Bible to apply them to His life.

So the question is not:

~~How to apply The Word to your life:~~  
**How The Word applies you to His Life... using Scripture:**

"How do I apply the Word of God to my life?" but "How does the Word of God apply me to His life...using scripture?"

Now, I don't want to get to esoteric, and all Kung Fu on you grasshopper, so let's just look at how it happened.

I'd like to make a few points:

**How to apply The Word to your life:**

**How The Word applies you to His Life... using Scripture:**

- 1) It happens while walking.

1. It happened while they were walking.

It didn't happen at a school or at a church service.

Don't leave scripture in school or at a church service.

Take it walking.

But if you never read it, study it, or memorize it, it's rather hard to take walking. So, I hope you make time to study the scripture and place it on your heart.

A rabbi was asked a question by a pupil referring to Deuteronomy 6:6 *"And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be upon thy heart."* "Why is it said this way?" the pupil asked. "Why are we not told to place them in our heart?" The rabbi answered, "It is not within man's power to place the divine teachings directly in his heart. All that we can do is place them on the surface of the heart so that when the heart breaks they will drop in."

The hearts of these two disciples were broken and Jesus, the Living Word, the great farmer, dropped His seed into the most fertile of soil. Saint Paul tells us we are God's field. The most fertile soil is a broken dirty field, a broken heart.

So...

**How to apply The Word to your life:**

**How The Word applies you to His Life... using Scripture:**

- 1) It happens while walking.
- 2) It happens in the place of disappointment.

2. It often happens in the place of disappointment,

the place your dreams die,

the place you "lose your life."

Think about these two: They say, “We had hoped he was the one to redeem Israel.” They had hoped that Jesus would establish the nation state of Israel and drive out the Romans. They had a very worldly sort of hope...like many Jews and Christians do still to this day. But they had just watched their hope get crucified; they watched their dream die.

Well Paul writes, “*Hope will not disappoint us* (hope abides).” So hope wasn’t wasted. It would rise from the dead. But there was a problem with their hope and dreams. The problem was not that their dreams were too large but far too small. You have to lose your life to find it. You have to lose your dreams to find your dream. Jesus doesn’t only redeem the little nation-state of Israel, He redeems the entire creation, and yet His kingdom begins with a seed that is sown in the soil of a broken heart. And He will break it.

Jeremiah 23:19

*Is not my word like a fire, declares the Lord. And like a hammer that breaks the stone in pieces.”*

We have stone hearts and Jesus, the Living Word, cracks them open to implant himself—the eternal promised seed.

**How to apply The Word to your life:**

**How The Word applies you to His Life... using Scripture:**

- 1) It happens while walking.
- 2) It happens in the place of disappointment.
- 3) It happens in the midst of confusion and doubt.

3. It often happens in the place of confusion and doubt.

**How to apply The Word to your life:**

**How The Word applies you to His Life... using Scripture:**

- 1) It happens while walking.
- 2) It happens in the place of disappointment.
- 3) It happens in the midst of confusion and doubt.
- 4) It happens through questions.

4. It happens through questions.

Remember Jesus is the Word; Jesus is the God-Man. It was Jesus who wrestled Jacob and turned him into Israel. Jesus will wrestle with you and use the Bible to do it. Jesus will create questions and ask questions.

If you engage the scriptures in Jesus' name, expect to be blessed and to walk with a limp. Jesus will make us wrestle with Him, and He is The Truth.

So, if anyone ever says to you, "Don't ask questions; just have faith," that person must not have much faith in The Truth, who is Jesus. Jesus said, "Seek," to seek is to ask a question: "Where is truth?" He said, "Seek and you will find." I suspect that Jesus will make you ask questions in the very place your old dream died...that you might see Him risen from the dead in that place.

He says, "what are you guys talking about?"

He walks them right into their deepest doubt and sorrow.

He says, "Tell me about these things?"

So they tell Him about the women and vision of angels.

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- 4) It happens through questions.
- 5) Pay attention to strange women and visions.

5. Pay attention to strange women and visions.

Jesus will create questions with strange women and visions. And then they tell Jesus how some of them conducted empirical research and found the tomb to be empty.

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- 4) It happens through questions.
- 5) Pay attention to strange women and visions.
- 6) Pay attention to science.

6. Pay attention to science, that is empirical evidence in this physical world.

We didn't invent science; people have been doing science for 1000s of years. And God doesn't hate science; He created it. He uses it to make us ask questions. Pay attention to visions, science and...

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- 5) Pay attention to strange women and visions.
- 6) Pay attention to science.
- 7) Pay attention to fellow travelers on the road.

7. Travelers on the road. Jesus is asking these questions in the form of the fellow traveller on the road.

When people ask you questions...pay attention.

It could be your kids.

It could be some folks in your small group.

It could be your nosy neighbor.

Jesus is very sneaky. We have underestimated His sneakiness. In the Old Testament, the Word of God even uses an ass. So pay attention to...fellow travelers on the road.

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- 7) Pay attention to fellow travelers on the road.
- 8) Pay attention to heartburn in your own heart.

8. Pay attention to heartburn.

If God is a person and He made you for Him. Perhaps this is the best evidence for the validity of His Word. That it “finds a place in you,” that you desire Him, you hope...

So, how do you know that the Word is true?

Well, how do you know that the sunrise is beautiful?

It “finds a place in you,” as Jesus would say.

It is “self attesting,” as theologians would say.

Cleopas and his friend say, *“Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked with us on the road, while he opened the scripture.”*

Pay attention to heartburn out on the road and in scripture. You know, on the road you’ll see a sunrise or hear a song, or your kid will say something and your heart will jump.

Maybe you couldn’t sleep. So you’re up late and end up watching an old movie like E.T.

E.T. has descended into our world from another world. In him is life. Adults can’t understand him, and so they want to dissect him to gain his power. But children love him, and thus know him, and thus enter his kingdom world. He dies...but lives...his heart burns with light. Then, as he leaves our world and ascends into the heavens, he touches Elliot on the forehead, with his light up finger, and says, “I’ll be right here.” And you start weeping, in the dark, on the couch, and you don’t know why.

Pay attention to that. It’s not just Stephen Spielberg that is speaking to you.

Pay attention to your own heart burning with faith, hope, and love.

Now open the scriptures...anything familiar?

When does your heart burn? Let it burn!

Why don’t we pay attention to that heartburn?

Is it because it scares us?

We’ve hoped and have seen our hope get crucified, and now we’re afraid to hope again. Hope burns.

But...

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**How The Word applies you to His Life... using Scripture:**

- 1) It happens while walking.
- 2) It happens in the place of disappointment.
- 3) It happens in the midst of confusion and doubt.
- 4) It happens through questions.
- 5) Pay attention to strange women and visions.
- 6) Pay attention to science.
- 7) Pay attention to fellow travelers on the road.
- 8) Pay attention to heartburn in your own heart.
- 9) Don't be slow of heart to believe all the prophets have spoken.

9. Don't be slow of heart

Jesus said, "Oh foolish (mindless) and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken." The principalities and powers of this world teach us to be slow of heart. But love: *"hopes all things, bears all things, believes all things, endures all things, love never fails."*

Sometimes, I fear that I've put too much hope in the love of God, that I've overestimated the love of God. Is that possible? Is it possible for you to get to Heaven and hear God say, "I know that Peter said I was super duper loving; however, I'm only kind of loving...sorry to disappoint you." Is that possible? God is Love.

Are you slow of heart to believe all the prophets have spoken? Forty-two times the prophets say, *"The steadfast love of the Lord endures forever."* It *"never ceases,"* and His mercies are new every morning.

Moses writes, *"And God saw everything that he had made and behold it was very good."*

Isaiah says, *"Every knee shall bow and every tongue shall swear allegiance."* (45:23)

And *"All the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God."* (52:10)

And *"All flesh shall come and worship before him."* (66:23)

Jeremiah tells us: *"God will not be angry forever"* (3:12)

And: *"The valley of dead bodies (that's Gehenna) will be holy and inside the new Jerusalem."* (31:28)

And *"Sodom will be restored."* (56:55)

Zephaniah tells us: *"All the people will call on the name..."*

In the Psalms David says, *"All the ends of the earth shall turn to the Lord, all the families of all nations and before Him shall bear all who go down to the dust."*

Peter preaches in Acts 3:21 *"The prophets prophesied a time when God would restore all things."*

And the greatest prophet of all, Jesus from the throne cries, *"Behold I make all things new."* (Revelation 22:5)

*"Foolish and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken."*

Please understand, Jesus did not say, "Explain all that the prophets have spoken," but "believe all that the prophets have spoken. Scripture testifies (2 Corinthians 1:20) *"All the promises of God find their 'yes' in Him."* In Him is always yes," in Jesus, which means "God is salvation."

Are you slow of heart to believe Jesus?

So Jesus asks, *"Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and then enter His glory?"*

Suffering...then...glory, that's the plot.

That's the plot of scripture and all creation.

The Plot gives meaning to every event in a story

The Plot takes chaos and turns it into order...

like a melody takes notes and turns them into a song.

The Plot makes sense of every person and thing in the story.

And a *good* plot makes *good* sense.

So...

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- 1) It happens while walking.
- 2) It happens in the place of disappointment.
- 3) It happens in the midst of confusion and doubt.
- 4) It happens through questions.
- 5) Pay attention to strange women and visions.
- 6) Pay attention to science.
- 7) Pay attention to fellow travelers on the road.
- 8) Pay attention to heartburn in your own heart.
- 9) Don't be slow of heart to believe all the prophets have spoken.
- 10) Don't avoid the frightening places on your road and in Scripture.

10. Don't avoid the frightening places on your road and in scripture

Jesus took these guys right back to the cross, where they witnessed the Messiah nailed to the tree...crying out, *"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"* Where they watched Hell swallow up the King of Heaven. But the very place of greatest suffering (indeed the place of all suffering) was about to be revealed as the source of all joy: *"For this is the plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Him," (to reconcile all things to Himself) by making peace by the blood of His cross,"* writes Paul.

That's the plot for all things. So don't be afraid to go to the most frightening places on your road with scripture. And of course, the most frightening place on anyone's road is their own sin and shame. Don't be afraid to go there.

The Savior is most glorified where you most need saving. You can't get to Easter...except by way of the cross. You can't enter God's story without surrendering your story. But when you lose your story, you find it.

You see, we get everything back with new meaning. The orphan gets his dad back, but not just his dad, God the Father as his Father. Once we get the plot, we get all things with him. So walk into the frightening places on your road, with scripture. And walk into the frightening places in scripture because you know the Plot.<sup>1</sup>

Maybe you don't read scripture because you don't trust the plot, and Jesus is the plot. Jesus is *what* the Bible means. If you know the Plot, you don't stop reading Dumbo when he finds out his ears are too big. If you know the Plot, you say, "Dumbo, have hope. Your shame will turn into your glory;" "Sleeping Beauty, you're not cursed forever, but you'll wake to find true loves kiss; have hope;" "Cinderella, you're not 'nobody nothin'. You only think you're 'nobody nothin'. So you'll forever be 'somebody somethin'."

You'll keep reading if you trust the plot.

Maybe you don't read scripture because you don't trust the plot. Maybe someone or something has tried to crucify the plot, that is nail it down, chop it up, and change its meaning. That would be like taking news clips and editing those news clips, so the newsmen's words had a different meaning, like same words...but a different song.

Did you know that, in Revelation 5, John sees: *"every creature (EVERY creature) in heaven and earth and under the earth and in the sea and all that is within them,"* singing the same song, and they're singing to Jesus—the Slaughtered Lamb, standing on the throne.

See? He's the Plot to every story and everything is His story. He's the melody and rhythm of the eternal song. He's the Word of God—the Plot.

We all crucified the Plot in order to write our own stories, and the Plot rose from the dead and wrote us all into His story, and that's the story of God's Plot. You see? God wants you to trust His plot so that you would want Him to write your story. Jesus is the Plot.

Well, you can surrender every moment in your life because Jesus is the Plot. And you can read every verse in scripture because Jesus is the Plot.

So Jesus says,  
Luke 24:25-27

*"Oh foolish ones and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and enter His glory?" And beginning with Moses (that's the law—the Pentateuch) beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them in all the scripture the things concerning himself."*

You know He's called "the ultimate Adam."

You know He was crucified on a "tree of knowledge" that became a "tree of life."

You know He is the God-man.

And I think He went to Sodom. He said He came to "cast fire on the earth," and the prophets teach Sodom will be redeemed.

You know Jesus is English for Joshua, and He devotes all men to God, who is consuming fire. And He is our scapegoat, and He is our sacrificial Lamb. He is the Master who made Himself a slave and calls all men to join Him. He fully fulfills all the Law and the Prophets.

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<sup>1</sup> Many ancient Jews avoided the prophecies of the Messiah's suffering, like Is. 53 and Ps. 22, and yet it's those prophecies that most reveal His glory and how He makes all things new.

I've just pointed to a few examples, but do you see?

He is the PLOT, and when you trust the Plot, the most terrifying and hopeless places become the most hopeful and exciting places. I mean, Good Friday becomes Easter; that's the Plot—*"Jesus the Christ crucified and risen from the dead,"* is the Plot.

**How to apply The Word to your life:**

**How The Word applies you to His Life... using Scripture:**

- 1) It happens while walking.
- 2) It happens in the place of disappointment.
- 3) It happens in the midst of confusion and doubt.
- 4) It happens through questions.
- 5) Pay attention to strange women and visions.
- 6) Pay attention to science.
- 7) Pay attention to fellow travelers on the road.
- 8) Pay attention to heartburn in your own heart.
- 9) Don't be slow of heart to believe all the prophets have spoken.
- 10) Don't avoid the frightening places on your road and in Scripture.
- 11) You invite Jesus to show you Jesus. He is the Plot.

11. Ask Jesus to show you Jesus; He is the Plot.

Verse 27:

*"He interpreted to them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself."*

You know, apart from the Bible itself, these....



are easily the most sacred writing in all my house, and I have 1000s of books. I keep these in a special place on my shelf.



Within three years, I begged her to be my plot, and she had become my song. I begged her to enter into a covenant with me, to abide with me, and commune with me. And...within four years, the pastor pronounces us “husband and wife.” Two became one flesh, and in this way she applied me to her life. My story became her story, and her story became my story, and our story is His story. He is the Plot.

Well anyway, Jesus revealed himself in all the writings and then, verse 29, “*They begged him to abide with them.*”

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- 9) Don't be slow of heart to believe all the prophets have spoken.
- 10) Don't avoid the frightening places on your road and in Scripture.
- 11) You invite Jesus to show you Jesus. He is the Plot.
- 12) You invite Jesus in.

12. Invite Jesus in.

They invite Jesus in to commune with them, and the Guest becomes the Host (quite literally).

Verse 30 “*When he was at table with them, he took bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight.*”

Where did He go? Where is His body?

Well, Cleopas and his friend run back to Jerusalem and tell the eleven disciples: “Good news, it's all good: Jesus is risen.” And verse 36, as they're talking Jesus himself stands among them and says “peace”-*shalom* (Jeru-shalom—city of peace), so they left old Jerusalem and returned to New Jerusalem; they left the city that crucified the Word and returned to the city in which the Living Word did abide.

And hey, did you notice: these two no-name disciples are not “nobody nothin” but “somebody something?” And did you notice, they not only understand the scripture...they actually became scripture? Luke 24:13-35. Did you notice their story has become His story, and His story is our story? We're not no body, but Christ's body, and that's not nothing...but something. His Father is our Father, and we inherit “all things.”

Did you notice, they did not make sense of the Word of God? The Word of God made sense of them. They did not apply the Word of God to their lives; the Word of God applied them to His life. They are Christ's body, created in the image of God with a Word.

**Communion**

Well, He took the bread and blessed it and broke it saying, “*This is my body given to you; take it; eat it.*” And in the same manner, after supper, He took the cup saying, “*This cup is the covenant in my blood; drink of it, all of you.*”

So just pray this with me: “Jesus would you come in and abide with us? Abide with me. And now come to the table tear off a piece of the bread, dip it in the cup, and let Him apply you to His life. Let’s worship

### **Benediction**

So, may you not stop living your life. May you not stop reading the text. Why? Because you know the Plot, and where is He? I just saw you eat Him and ingest Him...so that your body became His body, and He’s walking with you on this journey from the old Jerusalem to the New Jerusalem. So, have hope; let your heart burn. Just keep walking.

Now, there probably should have been a number 13.  
So...

13. It happened in community.

Did you notice that? The two guys were out on the road disputing and talking about stuff. Then Jesus shows up, and He starts talking to them.

Well, it also happens in community with us. That is why we have small groups, Bible studies, etc. And through those things, Jesus will reveal things in you and others. Jesus in all of us will reveal himself to each of us and help us to keep walking. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

*Disclaimer: The following document is a draft and has not been edited by the author. Therefore, there may be discrepancies. Some discrepancies may be minor; some may have to do with theology. When in doubt, please refer to the audio version of the sermon on this website and don't be shy about informing us of errors.*