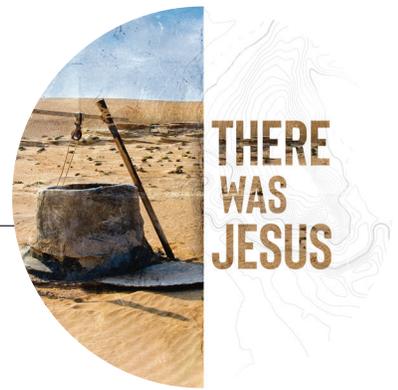


MESSAGE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

OCT 18, 2020 // THERE WAS JESUS



THERE WAS JESUS ... ON THE ROAD

Senior Pastor Marty Grubbs continued in our series, *There Was Jesus*, encouraging us in hope and promise with an encounter of Jesus captured in Luke 24. At what seemed like the bleakest time—just after Jesus was crucified, buried, and discovered missing from the tomb—people were leaving Jerusalem. They were heading home disillusioned, with their hopes shattered and dreams broken. Jesus, his identity hidden, appeared to two on the road to Emmaus, reminding them of Scriptures prophesying the death and resurrection of the Messiah. He stayed with them for dinner and opened their eyes to his true identity. Immediately, they remembered the way their hearts burned with hope and truth as Jesus walked with them on their way home and at their dining table. They learned the lessons we all need to remember, and hope was reborn within them.

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 24:13-3

That same day two of Jesus' followers were walking to the village of Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem. As they walked along they were talking about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them. But God kept them from recognizing him.

He asked them, "What are you discussing so intently as you walk along?"

They stopped short, sadness written across their faces. 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."

"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. But our leading priests and other religious leaders handed him over to be condemned to death, and they crucified him. We had hoped he was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel. This all happened three days ago.

"Then some women from our group of his followers were at his tomb early this morning, and they came back with an amazing report. They said his body was missing, and they had seen angels who told them Jesus is alive! Some of our men ran out to see, and sure enough, his body was gone, just as the women had said."

Then Jesus said to them, "You foolish people! You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures. Wasn't it clearly predicted that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering his glory?" Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

By this time they were nearing Emmaus and the end of their journey. Jesus acted as if he were going on, but they begged him, "Stay the night with us, since it is getting late." So he went home with them. As they sat down to eat, he took the bread and blessed it. Then he broke it and gave it to them. Suddenly, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And at that moment he disappeared!

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?" And within the hour they were on their way back to Jerusalem. There they found the eleven disciples and the others who had gathered with them, who said, "The Lord has really risen! He appeared to Peter.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are a couple of things you related to in Marty's message?
2. Read Luke 24:13-34. Put yourself in the story as one of the followers on the road to Emmaus. What do you learn about yourself? About Jesus?
3. When have you "walked the road to Emmaus," disillusioned, hopeless, confused, hurt? What were you telling yourself at that time?
4. On your journey through dark times, what are ways Jesus was there? How did he show up to you?
5. Knowing God uses our pain, our dark times, to later help others who find themselves in the same place, what do you think God is calling or nudging you to do?
6. If you are currently walking the road to Emmaus, how can we come alongside you?
7. How can we pray for you?

PRAYER

Use this time to ask Jesus to bring to mind the times he has shown up, when he has made his presence known, and who he has used in your life to remind you of his faithfulness. If you are walking in darkness, ask Jesus to walk with you and to open your eyes to him. Commit to reading the Bible, to learning and being reminded of truth and the constant presence of the Lord. Ask for hope to be reborn and for the purpose of your walk to Emmaus to be revealed.

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