



Easter at West Side – Road to Somewhere Discussion & Reflection Guide

Message & Scripture Discussion

- **What stood out to you from Sunday's service?** How did you sense God at work in you through the songs, the story video, the message, and being together with others as part of the church? (The message's main points and scripture are listed below if it helps you think back.)
- Eddie shared that at some point in our lives, we will feel or say, "This is not what I envisioned for my life." **When was the most recent time you said or thought this? What plan(s) for your life did not play out how you expected?**
- In the story from Luke 24, Jesus meets with Cleopas and his friend walking toward Emmaus. They know the details of what happened but miss both the full significance and the presence of Jesus himself. Eddie said it this way: "When it comes to your spiritual status, it really is about WHO you know, not WHAT you know." **Do you ever focus more on your knowledge and understanding than on the presence of Jesus in your life? Do you ever walk in the opposite direction of God's activity, even though you know the truth?**
- **Read the full story of the encounter with Jesus on the road to Emmaus in Luke 24:13-34.** Eddie encouraged us to spend more time with it today/this week. Consider reading through it several times.
 - **What do you notice about Cleopas and his friend in this story?**
 - **What do you notice about Jesus?**
 - **Where do you find yourself in this story?**
- Eddie shared two questions for reflection. Take time to write out your responses or talk through them with a friend.
 - **What is my Emmaus?** Am I taking a road away from God because of my disappointment or because it's not what I expected?
 - **What is God doing in me at this moment?** Is something stirring in you? Do you need to change directions to move toward Jesus and what God is doing?
- **Is there anything else from the message you want to explore more deeply this week?**

Message Main Points & Scripture

- Luke 23:56 - Then they went home and prepared spices and ointments to anoint his body. But by the time they were finished the Sabbath had begun, so they rested as required by the law.

- Luke 24:1-3 - But very early on Sunday morning the women went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. They found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. So they went in, but they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.
- Luke 24:4-8 - As they stood there puzzled, two men suddenly appeared to them, clothed in dazzling robes. The women were terrified and bowed with their faces to the ground. Then the men asked, "Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! Remember what he told you back in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be betrayed into the hands of sinful men and be crucified, and that he would rise again on the third day." Then they remembered that he had said this.
- Luke 24:12 - Peter jumped up and ran to the tomb to look. Stooping, he peered in and saw the empty linen wrappings; then he went home again, wondering what had happened.
- John 20:29 - "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."
- **"This is not what I envisioned for my life."**
- Proverbs 19:21 - You can make many plans, but the LORD's purpose will prevail.
- **God will not surrender his right to direct our lives.**
- Proverbs 19:21 (Message paraphrase) - We humans keep brainstorming options and plans, but GOD's purpose prevails.
- **God knew that his Plan B is better than my Plan A.**
- Luke 24:13-14 - 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.
- Luke 24:15 - As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them. But God kept them from recognizing him.
- Luke 24:17 - Jesus 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.
- Luke 24:21 - We had hoped he was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel. This all happened three days ago.
- **It is tragic to know the storyline, but miss the Savior.**
- Luke 24:22 - "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."
- Luke 24:25 - 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.
- Luke 24:30 - 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.
- **What is my Emmaus?**
- **What is God doing in me at this moment?**
- Luke 24:32 - "Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?"

We hope you'll use this guide to take the teaching from Sunday's service and reflect on it with a few friends or with a group. If you have questions or want to talk more about how to take your next spiritual step, contact us at info@wschurch.org.

Write It Down – Do you want to grow in your ability to experience God at work in your life? The habit of writing down notes through journaling is a great way to slow down and keep track of what you're learning and observing. We created a simple journal with examples of ways to take notes (Sunday worship notes, daily reflection, prayer requests, and more). Learn more about this and other resources at wschurch.org/resources.