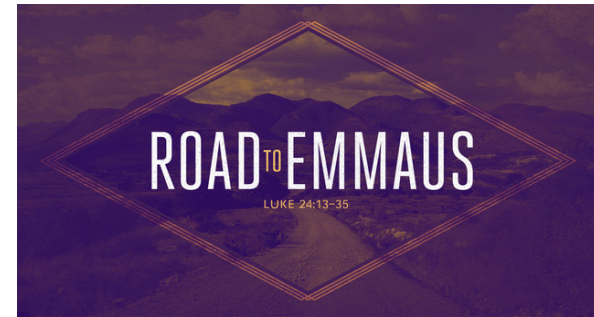


## **Praying Together**

Spend time praying together with your group, giving time to share joys and concerns, but making sure you have enough time to actually pray. Jot down your own prayer requests before your gathering begins.



**“Road to Emmaus”**

**Luke 24:13-35**

**Eric Sorenson**

**April 8, 2018**

## **Notes on How to Pray for Others**

### **How to Pray for our Church**

Pray for unity and a growing sense of community

Pray for the Senior Pastor search committee as it begins to form

Pray for the church staff during this time of transition

Pray that our church board will be filled with God’s wisdom and insight

### **Other Concerns:**

Pray for our Community, the World, and our Missionaries.

### **Opening Up:**

Which special worship service do you cherish most, Christmas Eve or Easter? Why?

### **Digging into Our Text:**

Read over Luke 24.13-35, then identify everything we learn there about these two travelers. Based on what you read, develop a character sketch of these two (have fun with it). What are they feeling? Verse 21 says they were hoping Jesus would be the one to redeem Israel. What do you think they meant by that – exactly what were they hoping for? According to verses 19-24, these two knew a lot of facts about what had transpired. What facts did they know? Why did they still not believe?

What do you think Jesus means in verse 25? What do you imagine to be the tenor of his voice as he says what he does in that verse? Read again verse 27: What does “Moses and all the prophets” refer to? How was it possible for Jesus to show them what Moses and the prophets said *about him* when he wasn’t even born yet? What do you imagine Jesus said as he explained to them these things?

Can you relate to feeling strong in your faith one day, then having your faith shattered the next, like these two did? Is there a specific incident in your life experience like that? What did you do to get through the crisis? What do you think was the core issue that led to your crisis; for instance, was your thinking faulty to begin with?

Why do you think it took this pair so long to figure out it was Jesus who had been walking alongside them? When does it finally dawn on them? Read verse 32 again. What do you think they meant by that? What does it mean that their hearts were burning within them? Exactly when do they say their hearts were burning within them? Have you/do you ever experience that?

What’s the connection between breaking bread (verse 30) and their eyes being opened (verse 31)? Luke also says that at that moment they recognized him. Read Luke 22.19. Is Luke trying to make a connection between the Last Supper and what he describes here in verse 30? Have you/do you experience your spiritual eyes being opened when you share in the Lord’s Supper? Do you recognize Jesus in a special way during communion? Share with your group about what communion means to you.

### **Getting Personal:**

Where is it that you need “resurrection” in your own life, a sense of renewal and new life? Note that it was a personal encounter with the risen Jesus that revived the hearts of these two downtrodden people. How can your Life Group be the presence of Jesus for you?

### **For Pondering in Private:**

How can you recognize Jesus’ presence in your own life? Make a decision to slow down, focus, and draw into the presence of Jesus, confident that he’s been with you all along your journey.

