

Sermon Discussion Guide

Encounters With Jesus: On The Road To Emmaus

Luke 24:13-35

April 18 & 19, 2020

This discussion guide is written in three sections. The first is for private/individual reflection. The second is for couples or for small groups who may be meeting via video or phone. The third contains questions for family discussion. As many of you are sheltering in place, we encourage you to continue to read the passage and study it throughout the week. This way you can meditate on new truths each day and discover new things God might teach you in his word.

Section 1: Individual Reflection

1. Ray spoke about times when we encounter the storyteller (Jesus) - the one who gives us the truth about our lives, our purpose and our calling. Are there moments or experiences that you can think of when you've encountered the storyteller?
2. What makes believing the story of Jesus and following him so difficult? Where have you found joy in believing the story?
3. Ray talked about our culture trying to provide a story - a story of self-obsession and a story of self betterment. Where do you see yourself and the culture believing this (unfulfilling) story? In what ways has that story ultimately failed you?
4. "Getting the story" means getting clarity on the questions of *who you are, where you're going* and *what you should do*. How would you articulate how the story answers these three questions?

5. Consider how this sermon affects our head, heart and hands. What does the passage teach us - what knowledge/information do we gain from this passage (head)? What does this passage show us about our sinfulness and how our affections need to be changed by the gospel (heart)? How should this passage change our actions - what do we need to do or think in our everyday life because of these truths (hands)?

Section 2: Couple/Small Group Discussion

1. What portions of the sermon were most significant and helpful to you? Summarize some of your answers from the previous section.
2. How has the virus shown you and the surrounding culture that we need a better story?
3. Ray dared us to, “believe that Jesus can give us our story back.” Reflect on this challenge. Where are you being lured by the story our culture sells? What makes the story of following Jesus so different from the culture? What makes it so much sweeter?
4. Intersecting with the story of Jesus happens as we read and study the Bible and as we get ourselves around people who follow Jesus. How have you seen this to be true as you’ve grown in your living of the story?

Part 3: Family Discussion

1. Share with your kids your reflections from Sections 1 and 2. Ask them to share some of their highlights from the sermon and see if they can summarize it.

2. Discuss with your kids times when you've lived and still live out of a different story. What did God teach you as your story intersected with the story of Jesus? Ask your kids to share where the story they believe (have believed) might differ from the story of Jesus.

3. Ray briefly described at the end of the sermon how Jesus welcomes us in his arms. Discuss with your kids how that image strikes you and why it's significant that Jesus does that. (Think about Jesus' embrace of us, even as sinners who struggle to believe the story everyday.)