



~ Emmaus Journey ~

“Now behold, two of them were traveling that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was seven miles from Jerusalem. And they talked together of all these things which had happened. So it was, while they conversed and reasoned, that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him.” – Luke 24:13-16

It had been a very long weekend for these two disciples. They were devout followers of Jesus and quite grieved and perplexed by the crucifixion of Jesus. They had heard reports of His resurrection, but unbelief and doubt still held them. As they walked, they were very sad and their conversation and faces showed their grief and their feelings of hopelessness as they discussed their doubts and concerns. They were so deep in their grief and so focused on their situation that they didn't realize that Jesus had drawn near and walked with them. The One they were so grieved about was among them and they didn't notice.

“And He said to them, “What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?” – vs. 17 Jesus wanted to teach them (and us) a valuable lesson and so He started with a question asking them to state what they perceived their problem was and the cause of their grief. They recounted to Him the events of the weekend and how their hopes in Jesus as Messiah lay in question as a result.

“Then He said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?” And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.” – vs. 25-27 Jesus turned their minds from their problem and to scripture instead. He also showed the value of the bible as a whole. Every single part of the bible works together proclaiming the covenant of God embodied in Jesus as Messiah. The Old Testament is just as valid today as it was then.

The two disciples neared the house where they were staying, and urged their Companion to stay and eat with them. They had to insist before He relented. *“Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight.” – vs. 30-31*

This brief story was recorded for our benefit. I don't know about you, but I can really relate to the lessons this narrative brings out. There have been times that my mind was so preoccupied by a circumstance or problem I faced that I forgot to realize that Jesus was right there with me,

waiting to relieve me of my burden and reinstate hope in my heart. I would let despair overtake my faith.

However, just like the disciples, Jesus doesn't leave me in those moments. Instead, He reminds me of the promises of His Word and leads me to my bible. By reading the pages of scripture, my faith is buoyed and my strength in His word begins to overrule the problem I face and my belief in His covenant is reinstated. By focusing on His word instead of my problem, I begin to have hope – and understanding.

Like the two disciples, if I desire Jesus to dwell in my house and my heart, I must ask. Jesus will not force Himself anywhere. I must seek after Him with my whole heart and soul. It's interesting to note, that if the two disciples walking to Emmaus had not urged Jesus to stay and eat with them, they would never have known that it was Jesus who had walked with them all that way. They would never have been able to share the glad news that they had seen the risen Savior.

How many blessings are missed in my life by not making Jesus first in everything? How about you? Are you passing up real peace by focusing on your situation or problem to the point that you forget Jesus is right beside you walking with you in it? Have you neglected to make God's word the authority of your hope instead of your perceived circumstance? Have you sought after Jesus with your whole heart and asked Him to come in and dwell with you? If not, why not take a moment just now to do that today? *"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me."* – Revelation 3:20

Kimberly Mills

Elijah Road Ministries Devotionals

Daily tools of inspiration and hope for the journey home.