



## A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Text for the Week: Luke 24:13-35

Message for the Week: "Emmaus Road"

Sunday, April 16, 2023

### Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

What is filling you with hope today?

### Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

### Read:

Read / Have two people in your group read [Luke 24:13-35](#) out loud. We are focusing in on verses 1-14.

[Clicking this link will bring you to multiple translations.]

As you read and/or listen to the text being read, circle, take note of, highlight, or underline what words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them with those who are with you.

## **Respond / Reflect:**

What have you hoped God was going to do / do you hope that God will do for you?

What happens to you when what you hoped for doesn't come to fruition like you imagined it would?

When you are looking for hope, where do you look? The Scriptures? Other people? Circumstances? Things?

What does hope mean? How would you define hope?

What Scripture do you think Jesus might have used to explain to the disciples "...concerning himself?" (verse 27)  
If you were asked to explain about the Messiah, what Scriptures would you use to explain who the Messiah is?

When have your eyes been opened, and you recognized the reality of who Jesus/God truly is? How did you respond?

## **Try It:**

Mr. Williams, Pastor Jeff's junior high math teacher said, "If you can explain it to someone and it makes sense, you understand it." How would you explain who Jesus is using the Scriptures so that it makes sense to someone else?

## **Prayer:**

Spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you. Pray this prayer together:

Father, renew my/our hope in Jesus Christ. Direct it in paths that honor and glorify you. Create a desire within to pursue the Lord, and in that to be filled with a holy hope. Fill me/us with that heavenly assurance that no matter what happens here I/we have a place reserved in eternity with you.

## **Missional/Spiritual Practice: Hospitality**

During the months of April and May, you are invited and encouraged to engage in the missional practice of [Hospitality](#). Hospitality is about creating welcoming space for the other. The practice of hospitality originated in the ancient world and was expected as travelers would seek shelter and food after traveling great distances. This practice is about living a life of hospitality. Henri Nouwen writes, "Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place. It is not to bring men and women over to our side, but to offer freedom not disturbed by dividing lines."