Overview:

In today’s passage two disciples started walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus. This was after the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. They were defeated. They were on the road recounting all the events from the past week in Jerusalem. Their whole world had just been turned upside down. They were looking for a conquering king and instead they received a suffering savior. With the coronavirus in the world today, how many people’s lives have been turned upside down? How many believers are walking around defeated? It is in the midst of this defeated walk that Jesus shows up.

Jesus asked them a simple question: “What are you discussing?” They couldn’t believe that Jesus didn’t know what had occurred in Jerusalem. They began to recount all the events of the past week. They knew the story, but they missed the point. Luke 24:19-24 is a nice summary of the story of Jesus. The key to the story was believing Jesus was who He said He was. Without this key all the events of the past week were just a story. It was just a story of a prophet who was crucified by the jealous religious leaders. How many of us today know the story but we miss the point? We walk around defeated because we don’t truly believe Jesus is who He said He is.

Jesus ever so gently began to explain to them the scriptures. He went through all the prophets beginning with Moses. Why did Jesus start that far back? Jesus wasn’t just in control of the past week; He had been in control since the beginning of time. These men needed to hear that God was and still is in control. There was nothing that happened in Jerusalem this past week that was out of His control. The crucifixion didn’t catch Jesus by surprise. There has never been a moment in time throughout all of history where God was caught by surprise. Maybe this is something we need to remember today. God is not sitting on His throne wondering what is going on. One day when we look back on the coronavirus of 2020 the discussion will be less focused on the virus and more on how God’s church responded.

Once these men finally saw Jesus for who He was their eyes were opened. They immediately went back to Jerusalem to share their story with the disciples. This means they would have taken the 7 mile journey back in the dark. Has God touched your heart in such a way that you have a story to tell? Do you have a burning in your heart and need to share with others? The church today doesn’t need defeated disciples. The church needs people whose eyes have been opened.
and whose hearts are burning to tell others what Jesus has done for them. The church needs people who not only know the story, but get the point. The church needs people whose story doesn't end with the crucifixion, but begins with the resurrection.

**Bible Study:** Luke 24:13-35

1. What is the difference between knowing about Jesus and believing in Jesus?

2. Think about a time when you felt defeated; like God wasn't in control. How did you remember God's faithfulness in those moments?

3. Do you believe God is in control during this crazy time? How are your actions reflecting your beliefs?

4. In the midst of chaos what opportunities do you see to minister to others?

5. How does the resurrection change everything?

6. A.W. Tozer once said: “A scared world needs a fearless church.” In what ways can the church be fearless in a chaotic world?

7. Who can you minister to in this time of need?