



COME WALK WITH JESUS: The Journey of Life with Jesus (A Study of Luke 24) #3

Introduction

*The Journey of Life...personal and together

*The Presence of Jesus Christ...Emmanuel = God with us. Practicing the Presence of Jesus in our everyday lives...being attentive

*Being transformed into the likeness of Jesus Christ...Jesus Christ invites us to journey with him, aware of his presence for the purpose of being transformed so that we can discern and do the will of God...following Jesus.

***Reading the Bible in a new way (lectio divina)...Read. Meditate. Pray. Act. **Let's Read Luke 24:13-35**

Henri Nouwen's ***With Burning Hearts: Mourning our Losses. Discerning the Presence. Inviting the Stranger. Sharing Communion. Going on A Mission.

I. **Walking without Jesus...Walking Together: Living between the already and not yet (Luke 24:13-14)**

A. Two of Jesus' Followers (Cleopas and...Mary or Luke) on the journey home to Emmaus (a 7 mile journey from Jerusalem)

B. The two were talking and discussing with each other about everything that had happened...

II. **Walking with Jesus...not recognizing Him: Welcoming the Stranger (Luke 24:15-17a)**

A. Jesus himself came up and walked alongside with them...

B. The Disciples were "kept" from recognizing Jesus as Jesus (he is a stranger)

C. Jesus asked them "What are you talking about as you walk along?"

III. **Standing Still with Jesus...what stops us "in our tracks" in life? (Luke 24:17b-18)**

A. Recognizing when we are sad/Why we are sad.

B. The barrier(s) between The Disciples and Jesus: "Are you the only visitor/stranger to Jerusalem who does not know what happened there?"

IV. **The Power of Questions, The Power of Listening, The Power of Responding...Jesus' teaching ministry to the very end (Luke 24:19-24)**

A. Jesus' brief question: "What things?"

B. What Jesus heard from His Disciples...

1. Jesus heard what they believed about Jesus of Nazareth and what had happened to him. “Jesus of Nazareth who was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. BUT The Chief Priests and our rulers handed him over to the Romans to be put to death by crucifixion.” (Read Matthew 16 when Jesus asked his disciples “Who do people say I am? Who do you say I am?”)

2. Jesus heard about the hopes/desires as well as the disappointment of his disciples (we had hoped that he was the one who going to redeem Israel), as well as their bewilderment and confusion (**some of our women amazed us** by sharing with what happened when they went to the tomb of Jesus and found it empty and that angels had said that Jesus was not dead but alive. Then some of our other **companions** went to the tomb and found it empty (as the women had said) and that they did not see Jesus.

III. Jesus (still a stranger) Asking Questions (Luke 24:25)

A. How foolish you are?

B. Why are you so slow to believe all that the Prophets have spoken?

C. Did not The Messiah/The Christ have to suffer these things and then enter His glory?

IV. Jesus begins to Explain to The Disciples (Luke 24:27)...beginning with Moses and all the Prophets and the rest of all the Scriptures (Old Testament writings), Jesus explained to them concerning himself.

V. The Disciples of Jesus Invite Him to stay with them (Luke 24:28-29)

A. The Village of Emmaus...home

B. Jesus was going to keep walking...another 7-10 miles to the next village

C. The Invitation (they urged him strongly) “Stay with us. It is nearly evening and the day is almost over...darkness.”

Some Questions for Conversation

*We all have hopes, dreams and desires yet we are often confronted by disappointment because our hopes are not realized, our dreams do not come true and our desires are not met or satisfied...True/False? **St Augustine** said “The entire life of a good Christian is never less than holy desire for God and the things of God.”

*Luke speaks of the women and other companions. We do not use the word “companion” much anymore but it is central to The Bible (Old and New Testaments) = shared company = shared living.

***Questions Jesus still asks of us ***The Importance of Invitation (see Revelation 3:20)