



Expect the Unexpected

EASTER • LUKE 24:13-35

① Big Idea

When we understand & embrace God's plan, the resurrection changes lives.

Read & Discuss Answers
Write notes and prayers on the back

OPENING QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the most memorable practical joke you can remember (done by, or to, you)?
- 2. Can you recall a time when someone recognized you, but you didn't recognize them (or vice versa)?

IN THE WORD

- Luke 24:15-16 tells us that the disciples were kept from recognizing Him. Luke actually uses a very forceful, active word to tell us that God (or Jesus) deliberately prevented them from recognizing Him! Can you give any reason why He might choose to do this?
- 2. Look more closely at verses 21 and 22. The two tell Jesus it has been three days since the death, but they've also heard the report of the women at the tomb. What do you make of these verses? Is it just a statement, or do you think they're wondering about His prediction of being raised from the dead? (Check out Mark 8:31-32, Matthew 16:21, Luke 9:22)
- 3. John believed right away when he saw the empty tomb (John 20:8-9) but still didn't understand the resurrection. What then did he believe?
- 4. In John 20:14, Mary also didn't realize that she was talking with Jesus. Is this similar to the experience of the disciples on the road to Emmaus in Luke 24 or is it different? Examine verses 10-16 and look for clues.

MAKING IT PERSONAL

- 1. The crucifixion of Jesus crushed the disciples' hopes in many ways; it wasn't until later that their understanding matured into faith. Think back to one or two events in your life that you now view as very important, perhaps even life-changing. Did you recognize the significance at the time or did this occur to you later?
- 2. Think for a moment of past dreams or expectations that went unfulfilled. As you look back, have you gained or learned anything from not fulfilling them?
- 3. Can you identify any broken dreams or hopes that you are currently experiencing?
- 4. How can we know whether or not it is wise to yield and accept the loss of our hopes, or should we continue to pray and expect that God may grant it?
- 5. In the weekend message, we were encouraged not to quit too soon in following Christ. Have you been, or are you now, tempted to walk away from following Him?
- 6. What regret, disappointment, worry, shame, guilt, or suffering would you like to hand over to Christ? Why is it difficult to do this?

CONTINUED LEARNING

Read Luke 24:36-49 and look carefully for everything that Jesus did or said in these verses to demonstrate that He is who He said He was. If you wish to take this farther, ask the same question while reading John chapter 20 through John 21:14.

Notes & Prayers

