

Luke

Carefully Investigating the Gospel ... Together

SSBC Luke Bible Study #97

Take this Bible Study home and use it to guide your exploration of the scripture passage that next Sunday's sermon will be focused on.

Passage: Luke 24:13-35

Sermon Date: Aug 12, 2007

A Walk with the Lord

“Let’s go for a walk.” We don’t say that to one another so often, do we? Perhaps back in the ‘good ole days’ we had more time for leisurely walks with a friend or pensive walks alone to wrestle with a big concern or decision.

Some years ago, I told my wife I was going for a walk, and she knew right away that I must be facing something big (on that walk I decided to leave my job). Have you been on any such ‘big’ walks lately? Any walks at all?

And when you do walk (whether physically down some road or path, or just some other equivalent way you have of getting away from the hustle & bustle of life), do you go alone, or do you ever invite Jesus to walk with you?

Two of Jesus’ followers went for a long walk on the Sunday after his death. They seemed depressed as they grappled with the events of the past few days. It made no sense to them. Then a ‘stranger’ came alongside them. Unbeknownst to them, they were on the ultimate walk to remember – one that would be memorialized as Luke 24:13-35. Today, we can walk in their footsteps as we read this passage, study it, pray about it, and even retrace their steps via our own walk with the Lord.

These studies are produced by South Shore Baptist Church in conjunction with our weekly sermon series. Studies are distributed one week prior to the sermon as inserts in the church bulletin and are also posted at <http://sermonhouse.com/SSBC>. Sermons are also recorded and can be listened to later by visiting that same website. Have feedback or questions? Contact studieditor@southshorebaptist.com

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Bible Study:

1. Read this week's Bible passage and use the chart below to note your observations and any questions you have.

Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p>¹³ Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶ but they were kept from recognizing him.</p> <p>¹⁷ He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"</p> <p>They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸ One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?"</p> <p>¹⁹ "What things?" he asked.</p> <p>"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰ The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹ but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²² In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³ but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive.</p>	

Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p>²⁴ Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see."</p> <p>²⁵ He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.</p> <p>²⁸ As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.</p> <p>³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³² They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"</p> <p>³³ They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together ³⁴ and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." ³⁵ Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.</p>	

2. Next, use this chart to **interpret some key observations**.

a. Select a few of your observations & questions from pages 2-3 that you find most interesting or important. Rewrite these below, and interpret and apply them using the columns to the right.

b. For each observation, begin to interpret by asking yourself these kinds of questions:

- What does it mean?
- Why is this important?
- What does this tell me about the Father? Jesus? The Holy Spirit?
- Are there other scriptures that could help me understand this?

Observation What does it say?	Interpretation What does it mean?

3. Now consider how you can **apply** the Word to your life. Look for:

- **S**ins to avoid
- **P**romises to believe
- **E**xamples to follow (remember "SPECK")
- **C**ommands to obey
- **K**nowledge to share

Don't just write things to write them – listen carefully to God's Word and what he seems to be teaching you, and look for relevant things that you're truly stirred to do. Then as you do them, God will help you learn, grow, and help others grow.

Application How do I apply what it means?

Look & Listen Closer:

4. What do you know about the two disciples who walked to Emmaus? At the beginning of their walk, what was their understanding of who Jesus was? (Lk 24:19-21)

5. The disciples spent perhaps several hours with Jesus without recognizing him, and then recognized him suddenly as he broke bread before them. What effect do you think the unusual nature and surprise ending of this encounter had on them and their subsequent 'walk' and witness?

6. A number of times in the Bible we see God opening people's eyes to show them something they couldn't see beforehand. For instance, read Gen 3:7, 21:14-19, 2 Kgs 6:15-17, and Lk 24:31. What does it teach a person about oneself when one's view of things is supernaturally prevented and/or enabled? What does it teach about God?

7. Why do you suppose Jesus appeared to these two disciples and loved them so? What does that suggest about how he feels about you?

8. The great commission ends with Jesus' assurance of his presence in our lives: "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Mt 28:20)

a. When in your life have you been in situations when you could or should have recognized Christ's presence but didn't? How might that be happening in your life right now? How should you deal with this?

b. After Jesus revealed himself and then disappeared, the two disciples described a 'burning' they had felt in their hearts while he was with them. When in your life have you experienced your "heart burning within you" related to an experience of feeling/being closest to Christ?

c. What does it take to believe in the resurrection, to begin to understand and experience God's presence? (Consider Lk 24:49, Acts 1:4-8, 1 Cor 2:6-16)

d. Although they did not yet know who he was, the two disciples strongly urged Jesus to "Stay with us" (Lk 24:29) and then they experienced more of his presence. We can learn from this example. What are some practical ways you can seek to experience God's presence in your daily life?

Take a Walk with God

The Christian life is often compared to a “walk.” How is your walk with the Lord these days? Why not take some time this week to literally take a walk with God? Carve out some time, get away from the hustle & bustle of life’s TV’s, phones, Internet, yardwork, etc. It’s okay – God will help you with whatever you might have “missed.” Will you do it?

Here are a few verses to remind you what God’s Word says about the possibility and the importance of us being in His presence.

“I am God Almighty; walk before me and be blameless.” (Gen 17:1)

“My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” (Ex 33:14)

² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. ³ For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; (Isa 43:2-3a)

² Many nations will come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.” (Micah 4:2)

⁸ He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)

Before you begin your walk, take a minute to re-read Luke 24:13-35, and then maybe read through Isaiah 52:13-53:12 to remind yourself of the painful walk that Jesus made up Calvary’s hill for you.

As you go, talk with God, ask him questions, listen to him (bring your Bible), ... and don’t forget that he is indeed right there with you.