Story Time - Read the story to the children Lesson 240: THE ROAD TO EMMAUS LUKE 24:13-35

That same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a town named Emmaus. It is about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking about everything that had happened. While they were talking, discussing these things, Jesus himself came near and walked with them. (But the two men's eyes were not able to recognize Jesus.) He asked them, "What's this I hear you discussing with each other as you walk?" The two men stopped, their faces looking very sad. The one named Cleopas said, "You must be the only person in Jerusalem who doesn't know what has just happened there." Jesus said, "What are you talking about?" They said, "It's about Jesus, the one from Nazareth. To God and to all the people he was a great prophet. He said and did many powerful things. But our leaders and the leading priests handed him over to be judged and killed. They nailed him to a cross. We were hoping that he would be the one to free Israel. But then all this happened. "And now something else: It has been three days since he was killed, but today some of our women told us an amazing thing. Early this morning they went to the tomb where the body of Jesus was laid. But they did not find his body there. They came and told us they had seen some angels in a vision. The angels told them Jesus was alive! So some of our group went to the tomb too. It was just as the women said. They saw the tomb, but they did not see Jesus." Then Jesus said to the two men, "How foolish you are, and you're so slow to finally believe everything the prophets said! The prophets said the Messiah must suffer these things before he begins his time of glory." Then he began to explain everything that had been written about himself in the Scriptures. He started with the books of Moses and then he talked about what the prophets had said about him. They came near the town of Emmaus, and Jesus acted as if he did not plan to stop there. But they wanted him to stay. They begged him, "Stay with us. It's almost night. There's hardly any daylight left." So he went in to stay with them. Joining them at the supper table, Jesus took some bread and gave thanks. Then he broke some off and gave it to them. Just then the men were allowed to recognize him. But when they saw who he was, he disappeared. They said to each other, "When he talked to us on the road, it felt like a fire burning in us. How exciting it was when he explained to us the true meaning of the Scriptures!" So the two men got up then and went back to Jerusalem. There they found the disciples of Jesus meeting together. The eleven apostles and the people with them said, "The Lord really has risen from the dead! He appeared to Simon." Then the two men told what had happened on the road. They talked about how they recognized Jesus when he shared the bread with them.



"And it came to pass, that while they were talking together and discussing these things, Jesus Himself drew near, and went with them." LUKE 24:15

240. THE ROAD TO EMMAUS LUKE 24:13-35

MEMORY VERSE:

"And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He explained to them all the things about Himself in the Scriptures." LUKE 24:27

Review Questions True or False

- 1. Ten of them were traveling that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem.
- 2. While they were talking and discussing these things, Jesus Himself drew near and went with them, but their eyes saw Him and knew who He was.
- 3. He said to them, "What's this you're saying to each other as you walk?"
- 4. Then Cleopas answered and said to Him, 'It's about Jesus, the one from Nazareth. He was a great Prophet to God and to all the people.'
- 5. Jesus answered them and said, "How smart you are! You believe very quickly everything the prophets said!"

Questions

- 1. Did the two disciples recognize that it was Jesus at first who was walking along to Emmaus with them?
- 2. Why were they looking sad? What was it they were talking about to each other before Jesus came and joined them?
- 3. When they got to Emmaus, did they ask Jesus to stay there with them?
- 4. What happened when Jesus ate dinner with them, and broke the bread and shared it with them?
- 5. As soon as they recognized that it was Jesus, what happened?
- 6. When they got back to Jerusalem and told the eleven apostles about what they saw, what did the eleven tell them? (the apostles were the ones closest to Jesus who He chose to help spread the gospel they were the original disciples).

Lesson 240 Activity

What is Encouragement?

Have your children make a card with an encouraging note or happy picture (according to age appropriateness). Fold an 8.5"x11" paper in half for each card. Have your children use stickers and markers or crayons to produce their encouraging cards.

Give the cards to an outreach ministry in your church and have the cards distributed to nursing home residents, shut-ins, or hospital patients. (We will give ours to the nursing home residents).

Explain to your class the meaning of encouragement and how we can find encouragement in the promises of God's word.

This was Resurrection Day, the day we celebrate Jesus rising from the dead to give us a future of hope and life for eternity. Because of the resurrection, we know that death has been conquered and we will be raised from the dead to live forever with Christ. The resurrection was the greatest event in the history of mankind. Though this day should have been a day of celebration, the two men walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus were discouraged, which means sad, and these disciples had no reason to be discouraged! They had heard of the women's reports that the tomb of Jesus was empty and that He was alive, but they did not believe them. Disappointment filled their hearts with hopelessness, since they had thought Jesus would save all of Israel. They saw the glory of the kingdom, but they didn't understand the suffering that Jesus had to go through. These men didn't understand what God said in His word about His plan and His promises. Their world had crumbled around them and they needed encouragement. Jesus came to give them encouragement by explaining in the Scriptures all about the prophecies that were written about Him, all of God's promises about Jesus! We can all find encouragement in the promises of God's word.

Just like Jesus encouraged these disciples, and just like God encourages us with His promises in His Word, we can encourage the nursing home residents with these cheerful encouraging cards!

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving for the promises of God's word. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the gospel, give them an opportunity to do so.