

A Stranger

(based on Luke 24:13-35)



The disciples didn't know what to do now that Jesus wasn't with them. Cleopas and another disciple decided to go home. They left Jerusalem and walked on the road to Emmaus, a small town a few miles away. The disciples who stayed in Jerusalem didn't know what to do now that Jesus was not with them.



As they walked, Cleopas and the other disciple talked about all that had happened the last week in Jerusalem. They were in the crowd when Jesus rode into Jerusalem. They remembered how Jesus taught in the temple for three days. They knew that the religious leaders plotted to arrest Jesus. They knew that he died and was buried in a tomb with a heavy stone across the opening. They saw no reason to stay in Jerusalem, so they started to walk home.



The two disciples were so intent on their conversation that they barely noticed that someone had joined them. They continued to talk about Jesus and what he told them and what he did. The more they remembered, the sadder they became.

"What are you talking about?" asked the man who was walking with the two disciples.

Surprised at his question, Cleopas said, "Are you the only person coming from Jerusalem who doesn't know what happened there?"



"What happened?" the stranger asked.

"Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet of God, was sentenced to death and died on a cross. We thought he would save Israel. Now we don't know. But earlier today two women went to the tomb, and his body was missing. They told us that angels told them that he was still alive. But we didn't see Jesus."



"Have you forgotten what the prophets said about the one God would send? Wake up!" said the stranger. Then he taught them about the prophets and what had to happen, beginning with Moses.

When the three arrived at Emmaus, the two disciples said, "It's getting dark. Stay with us."

So the stranger came in with them. They sat down at the table to eat. Jesus took the bread, blessed it and broke it. He gave some to each disciple and, in that moment, the two disciples recognized that the stranger was Jesus. But then he disappeared.



"Wasn't his teaching about the prophets powerful?" the disciples said.

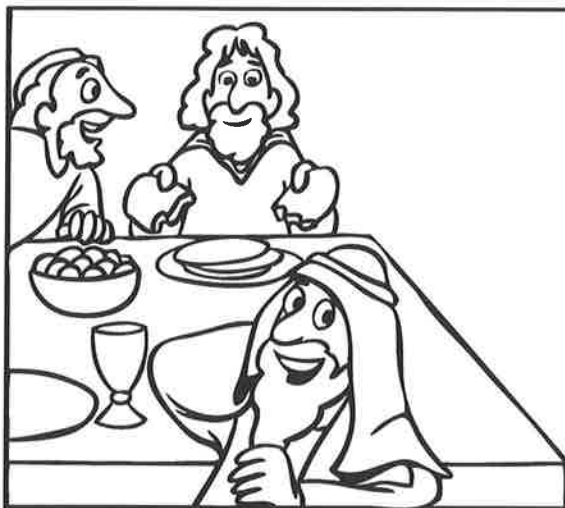
They hurried back to Jerusalem and found Jesus' followers. The followers were excited to tell them that Peter had seen Jesus. Then the two disciples told about walking along with Jesus but not recognizing him until he broke the bread and gave it to them.

Word Search

Search for 16 ways, places, and times in which people experience God's presence! Words appear down, across, or diagonally.

F A M I L Y A M V W Q L
 R M N C L K S J B O U O
 I H S C R I P T U R E V
 E Y G T T O S P Z S P E
 N A G P H K P B X H I T
 D A A L N S E R V I N G
 S B T M J O Y C A P G V
 H B U U I N G K L Y O L
 I I D S R G H U G S E N
 P B W I P E H M A P H R
 S L I C O M M U N I O N
 B E E X E R C I S E V W

When and where do **you** recognize or experience God's presence?



Word Bank:

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| FRIENDSHIP | JOY |
| BIBLE | SERVING |
| MUSIC | HUGS |
| SONG | COMMUNION |
| WORSHIP | EXERCISE |
| LOVE | NATURE |
| FAMILY | BAPTISM |
| SCRIPTURE | PRAYER |