Understand: Jesus on the Road

On the evening of the very first Easter, two of Jesus' followers listened as their companion on the road to Emmaus explained various Old Testament scriptures to them. Unknowingly, they were walking this road with their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As they listened that evening, their understanding of Scripture grew and so did their faith. In time, they realized that it was Jesus himself teaching them along the way. Much like those first believers, our faith is a journey too and Jesus gives us the Holy Spirit as our guide. Discover how the Holy Spirit helps us cultivate our faith yet today as we develop a greater understanding of God and his ways through Scripture.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- Have you ever experienced a moment of recognition, for example when your child sees their teacher in the grocery store or when you see a celebrity at the airport or when you encounter an old school friend after many years? What was that moment like?
- Are there any scripture passages you don't understand, that you wish Jesus could explain to you?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: Understand: Jesus on the Road

READ Luke 24:13-35

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- When Jesus joins Cleopas and his friend on the road to Emmaus, he asks them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" (<u>Luke 24:17</u>). In doing so, he listens to their hearts and allows them to tell him what they're thinking about and discussing. How would you answer if Jesus asked you that question, or a similar question like "what are you thinking about" today? What does it mean to you that God is interested and cares to know what you think and feel?
- In segment 2, hosts Scott Hoezee and Darrell Delaney observe that it is in the rhythm of the breaking of the bread that Cleopas and his companion finally recognize Jesus. Why do you think participation in the Lord's Supper contributes to increased understanding and the cultivation of our faith even today?
- In segment 3, Scott says "So, from his [Jesus] vantage point now, at the right hand of the Father, he does walk with us and talk with us every day, just like with Cleopas and the other person; and he is praying for us to help us in our times of trial. He is praying for us to help us resist temptation. He is on our side, and with us every day." What is the difference between knowing this to be true and feeling this to be true? How can understanding this truth deepen your faith?
- Which of the three passages discussed in segment 3—<u>Hebrews 7:23-25</u>, <u>Colossians 3:1-11</u>, and <u>1</u> <u>Corinthians 15:1-6</u>—gave you an "aha!" moment or led you deeper understanding of Jesus while listening? Which one would you like to spend more time studying?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

Hebrews 7:23-25, Colossians 3:1-11, 1 Corinthians 15:1-6

CONCLUSION

Reflect back on your answers to the awareness question: "Are there any scripture passages you don't understand, that you wish Jesus could explain to you?" Consider writing the passages down in a list or in a journal. Include the questions you have about the passages. Add to this journal list any time you have new questions. Revisit it once in a while to see where you have grown in your understanding. Think about how that growth has impacted your faith. Close your time in reflective prayer using some of the following prompts:

- Identify the passages that puzzle you and tell God what confuses you or why you seek clarity and understanding.
- Recognize how you've grown in faith. Give thanks for the answers to prayer and the scriptures you now understand.
- Ask for the Holy Spirit to increase your understanding. Pray for an "our hearts were burning" (<u>Luke</u> 24:30-32) experience.

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