



LEADER'S GUIDE – JANUARY 27



HIGHLIGHT: *Primary Passage from Sunday*

Luke 24:13-27; 44-48: 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. ¹⁷ He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?” They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸ One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” ¹⁹ “What things?” he asked. “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. ²⁴ Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.” ²⁵ He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Did not the Messiah 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.

[The disciples would come to realize Jesus was the stranger and return to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples.]

⁴⁴ He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.



EXPLAIN: *To Be Reviewed before the group gathering*

Two unnamed disciples are making the seven-mile journey from Jerusalem back to their hometown of Emmaus. Not only had their master, Jesus, just died, but also their hope of Israel’s redemption. In this story, they encounter the risen Messiah who resets their expectations of how Christ would redeem his people and for whom would be included.



APPLY: *For Group Discussion*

1.) Read vv. 13-24. As the disciples walked to Emmaus, what were they discussing? They were discussing the death of Jesus Christ and the disappointment and sorrow they felt. **In v. 21, they say, “we had hoped that he was the one that was going to redeem Israel,” what do you think the disciples’ picture of redemption looked like?** The Messiah would come like a lion, not a lamb. He would bring a redemption that would bring worldly power and position over neighboring cities. His redemption would be focused toward the nation of Israel.

2.) Read vv. 25-27. How does Jesus’ respond to the disciples’ missed expectation? He brings them back to the what the prophets had said about the Messiah. He brings them back to Scripture and shows them God’s plan, not their own. **Based off what we know from Scripture, how did Jesus’ redemption plan look different than what the disciples had envisioned?** Jesus came as a lamb, while the disciples expected a lion. Christ settled an eternal war, while the disciples were expected the Messiah to settle a physical war.

3.) Read vv. 44-48. Who did Jesus’ die for? How did this differ from the disciples’ expectation of the Messiah? V.47 “... to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.” Christ came to die for all people, not just Jerusalem. The disciples thought the redemption was only for them, but it was for the whole world.

4.) Read Matthew 28:18-20. How would this shift in the disciples’ perspective change their engagement with Christ’s redemption plan? They moved from consumers to co-laborers. From mere recipients of reconciliation to messengers of reconciliation. **How does this verse impact us as believers today?** Just like the disciples, we have been sent out to carry the Gospel message to our city and our world.



RESPOND: *Bringing the discussion to a point of action*

Big Takeaway: We are sent people. Just as the disciples were called to take the Gospel message past the walls of Jerusalem, we are called to take the Gospel past the walls of the church and to the ends of the world. Below is a list of ways that your group can partner with the Chapel in its cross-cultural efforts.

- **Go:** Join the Chapel’s Mexico Trip in June
- **Pray:** Grab a booklet of the missionaries at kiosk and pray through it this Spring as a group
- **Send:** Your Community Group can commit to praying and caring for a “cross-culture worker”
- **Welcome:** Contact Steve Elworth about internationals who would be interested in joining your Community Group.
- **Mobilize/Learn:** Join the For God So Loved The World class this week

For more info, email Steve Elworth at steve.elworth@thechapelbr.com

- 1.) By looking at the list above, how can you or your group partner with The Chapel in its efforts to reach the nations?**

