RESURRECTION

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

WEEK 3

Caster Series

CONNECT

Pick one of the questions:

- Did you have any Easter traditions growing up? What were they?
- In the past, how have you tried to change yourself? Physically, mentally, emotionally? Did it work?
- What is something that you are grateful for?

INTRODUCTION

The last two weeks we have looked at passages leading up to Jesus' death and resurrection and the interactions Jesus had with his disciples along the way. In this passage, all that Scripture and Jesus have predicted has come true! Jesus has risen from the dead. But the disciples still need Jesus to change them. Today, we will see how encounters with the risen Jesus

change how we see, how we feel, and the direction that we are headed.

OBSERVATION

In this section, take time to slow down and grow in your own familiarity of the text. Pick one or two questions.

READ

Luke 24:12-35

INITIAL QUESTIONS:

- 1. What strikes you about Jesus' interaction with the disciples?
- 2. Why do you think Luke, the author, points out the difference between, "their eyes being kept from recognizing him (v. 16)" and "their eyes were opened (v. 31)"?
- 3. What is the significance of the disciples returning to Jerusalem after encountering Jesus?

INTERPRETATION

DISCUSS:

As the disciples are on their way to Emmaus, the risen Jesus begins to walk with them. Even after all their time spent Jesus, they are unable to recognize him and are deeply sadden because Jesus didn't do what they expected him to. They are unable to recognize him because their perspective on him needed to be changed. He was not a man, prophet, miracle worker, or army general, but the Christ. Their feelings were wrong because they more invested in Jesus restoring Israel to it's former glory than the establishment of an eternal kingdom. Has there ever been a moment in your life when you misunderstood Jesus or he didn't do what you thought he would?

INTERPRETATION

DISCUSS:

After Jesus breaks the bread, the disciples eyes are opened and their hearts are changed. They turn around and walk back to Jerusalem. Their physical direction change, from Emmaus back to Jerusalem, was a manifestation of the change that had happened inwardly. The truth of the resurrection set them free for greater obedience to Christ. As the risen Jesus has become more real to you, how has he changed the way you live your life?

APPLICATION

DISCUSS

Encounters with the risen Jesus change everything. He changes how we see, the way we feel, and the direction we are headed in life. Jesus invites us into this change. He wants his disciples to experience change through encounters with him, but he also wants those who don't know him yet to experience him. In what ways are you trusting Jesus to meet people in your life?

PRAYER

- Take time to praise Jesus for being the one who changes us.
- Pray for those in your life who you want to experience the changing power of the gospel.
- Pray for the areas in your life where you are trusting God to change you.

DISCIPLESHIP CHECK-IN

- Have you read your Bible and prayed consistently the past week?
- Who is one lost person you're praying would come to faith?



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