

JESUS APPEARS TO HIS DICIPLES

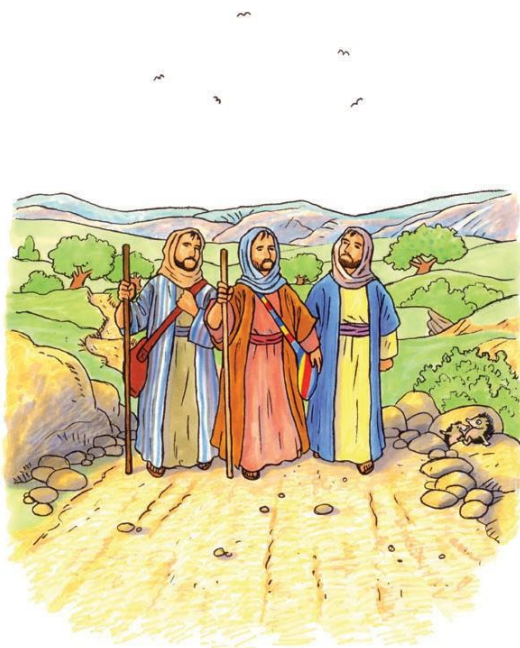
Luke 24:13-35



Contents

Message	Experiencing Jesus is a matter of the heart and not only of the mind.
Learning Objectives	The children will learn: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Jesus appeared to the disciples after He arose from the dead.■ We can encounter Jesus in various forms.
Bible Text	Luke 24:13-35

Jesus Appears to His Disciples



Two of the disciples were on their way to Emmaus. The town was about a two-hour walk from Jerusalem. They talked about the events of the last few days.

As they spoke to each other, a stranger came up to them and walked with them. The stranger was actually Jesus, but the disciples did not recognise Him.

Jesus asked them, "What are you talking about?"

The two disciples stopped walking. They were very sad. One of them, who was named Cleopas, replied, "Are you the only visitor in Jerusalem who does not know what has happened over the last few days?"

Jesus asked, "What has happened?"

Cleopas explained, "Jesus of Nazareth was a prophet, mighty in deed and word before God and the whole nation. Three days ago, the high priests and the council condemned Him to death and crucified Him. We hoped He would be the Saviour of Israel. Some of the women in our group visited the grave early this morning and found that His body was gone. They saw angels there who told them that He was alive. Some of us went into the grave and found it empty."

Jesus asked them, "Do you not believe what the prophets said? It was necessary for Christ to suffer in this way so that He could depart in glory." Jesus told them about Moses and all the prophets. He explained what was written about Him in scriptures.

When they arrived in Emmaus, the two disciples said to Jesus, "It will soon be evening and the day will be over."

Jesus stayed and ate with them. He took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them. At that moment, they recognised with whom they had been speaking. Then Jesus disappeared.

Quickly they returned to Jerusalem. There they found the eleven disciples gathered with others who said, "The Lord is truly risen!" Then the two disciples told the story of what had happened to them on their journey, and how their eyes had been opened when Jesus broke the bread and gave it to them.

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

Suggestions for the Teacher

Lead-In

Show the picture to the children. Discuss with them what they see. Ask what she/he may feel....

Let some of the children play the story in a role-play. Instruct them before.

Provide disguise, a table, chairs, bread and wine....

Lesson Instructions

Begin telling the story...

Discuss with the children...

- Why are the two disciples so sad on their way to Emmaus?
(Jesus was crucified. / They expected that Jesus would be a strong king. / They cannot understand why Jesus did not destroy His enemies.)
- Why do the disciples not recognise Jesus?
(Their eyes are "closed" at first because of their grief. They are "blind".)
- How do they recognise Jesus?
(He takes the bread, blesses it, and gives it to them just as He did during the Last Supper.)
- Why do they not recognise Him earlier?
(They rely too much on their eyes instead of relying on their hearts.)

Have the children repeat...

- Jesus appeared to the disciples after He arose from the dead.
- We can encounter Jesus in various forms.

Real-Life Application (explain the following)

- We cannot recognise Jesus with our natural eyes, but only with our souls.
- How can we experience His presence?
(When we pray, attend a divine service, participate in Holy Communion, ...)

Repeat the Message
Experiencing Jesus is a matter of the heart and not only of
the mind.