

Unit 27 • Session 2
The Emmaus Disciples

BIBLE PASSAGE:

Luke 24

STORY POINT:

Jesus taught that all the Scriptures point to Him.

KEY PASSAGE:

John 11:25

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Where is Jesus now? Jesus ascended to heaven where He is seated at the right hand of the Father.

APPLY THE STORY

(25–30 minutes)

LEADER Bible Study

Jesus' death and resurrection should not have surprised the disciples. Sometimes Jesus spoke metaphorically about His death and resurrection. (See Matt. 12:39; Mark 14:58; John 2:19; 3:14-15.) Other times, Jesus plainly told the disciples that He would be betrayed, crucified, buried, and resurrected on the third day. (Matt. 17:12; Mark 8:31; Luke 9:22) In fact, Jesus had spoken so frequently of His death and resurrection, the chief priests and Pharisees asked Pilate to place guards at the tomb in case the disciples stole Jesus' body. (See Matt. 27:62-66.)

On resurrection morning, the angel at Jesus' tomb asked the women, "Why are you looking for the living among the dead?" (Luke 24:5). Even when Peter and John ran to the empty tomb to see it for themselves, Peter was amazed but uncertain (Luke 24:12), while John believed (John 20:8).

That same day, two disciples were walking to Emmaus, arguing about recent events. Jesus began walking next to them, but God prevented them from recognizing Jesus. (Luke 24:16) Jesus simply asked them what they were arguing about. They stopped walking. How could He not have heard about what happened over the last three days?

The two disciples had hoped Jesus was the Redeemer of Israel. Their hopes were crushed when Jesus died. Now Jesus explained to them why the Messiah had to die, starting with Moses and the Prophets. Jesus showed how the Scriptures point to Him. (Luke 24:27; John 5:39)

Remind kids that the Bible is not a collection of unrelated stories. The whole Bible is about Jesus. When Adam and Eve sinned, God began working out His plan to send Jesus to rescue people from sin. (Gen. 3:15) All of the Old Testament points forward to Jesus' life, death, and resurrection—the time when Jesus would bring God's promised salvation for sinners.

The BIBLE Story

The Emmaus Disciples

Luke 24

On the day that Jesus rose from the dead, two of Jesus' disciples were walking to a village called Emmaus. The two disciples were talking about everything that had happened. As they talked, Jesus came and began to walk with them, but the disciples did not recognize Him.

Jesus asked the disciples, "What are you talking about?"

The disciples stopped walking. They looked sad. One of the disciples, Cleopas, answered, "Are you the only one in Jerusalem who hasn't heard what happened?"

"What happened?" Jesus asked.

So **they told Him**, "Jesus of Nazareth was a Prophet. He was powerful when He acted and spoke before God and all the people. **The religious leaders handed Jesus over to be sentenced to death, and they nailed Him to a cross.**

"We had hoped He was the One who would set Israel free. Besides, it's the third day since these things happened. **Early this morning, some women went to the tomb and did not find Jesus' body. They saw angels, who said that Jesus is alive.** Some of our friends went to the tomb, and they too saw that the tomb was empty."

Jesus said, "You are foolish to not believe what the prophets said! **Isn't this what had to happen to the Messiah?" Then, beginning with Moses and the Prophets, Jesus explained to them what all the Scriptures said about Him.**

Jesus and the two disciples arrived at Emmaus, and they asked Jesus to stay with them. So Jesus joined them at the dinner table. He took the bread, thanked God for it, and broke it into pieces. Then He gave the pieces to the disciples. Right away, the disciples recognized Jesus! But Jesus immediately disappeared from their sight.

The two disciples thought about their walk to Emmaus. They said, "When Jesus talked to us on the road and explained the Scriptures, didn't our hearts burn with excitement?"

The disciples immediately left Emmaus and went back to Jerusalem. They found Jesus' eleven disciples and others who gathered with them. They told them what happened. They said, "Simon saw Jesus too! Jesus is alive!"

Christ Connection: The whole Bible is about Jesus. When Adam and Eve sinned, God began working out His plan to send Jesus to rescue people from sin. All of the Old Testament points forward to Jesus' life, death, and resurrection—the time when Jesus would bring God's promised salvation for sinners.

APPLY THE STORY

Session Title: The Emmaus Disciples

Bible Passage: Luke 24

Story Point: Jesus taught that all the Scriptures point to Him.

Key Passage: John 11:25

Big Picture Question: Where is Jesus now? Jesus ascended to heaven where He is seated at the right hand of the Father.

Key passage activity (5 minutes)

Key Passage Poster
kid-friendly magazines
scissors
glue sticks
paper

Display the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading aloud John 11:25 together. Distribute magazines and challenge kids to find and cut out the letters or words of the key passage. Instruct them to glue the pieces together to create a poster. If your group is large, form smaller groups to create multiple posters.

Say • When the disciples realized that Jesus is alive, they were happy! Why? Because Jesus' resurrection gives us hope! **Jesus taught that all the Scriptures point to Him.** Everything the Bible says about Jesus is true. ***Where is Jesus now? Jesus ascended to heaven where He is seated at the right hand of the Father.*** One day, everyone who trusts in Him will live with Him forever.

Discussion & Bible skills (10 minutes)

Bibles, 1 per kid
Story Point Poster
Small Group Timeline and Map Set (005802970)

Option: Retell or review the Bible story using the bolded text of the Bible story

Distribute Bibles. Guide boys and girls to open their Bibles to Luke 24. Explain that Luke is one of the four biographies of Jesus in the Bible. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are all Gospels; the word *gospel* means “good news.”

Say • The disciples were walking on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus. [*Point out Jerusalem (H4) and Emmaus (H3) on the New Testament Israel Map.*]

Emmaus was a village about seven miles away from the city. They were discussing the things that had happened—Jesus' death and the reports that He was resurrected—when Jesus began walking with them.

Jesus taught that all the Scriptures point to Him.

Choose a volunteer to read aloud Luke 24:27. Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss:

What were the two disciples talking about as they walked, and why were they upset? *Lead kids to recall that the disciples were very sad about Jesus' death. All of Jerusalem had witnessed Jesus' triumphal entry and then His death on the cross. Jesus' disciples had scattered when He was arrested, but the two disciples traveling to Emmaus had heard rumors that Mary and the other women had seen Jesus alive. But they didn't know what to believe!*

(Option: Choose a volunteer to read Luke 24:6-7.)

How is the Bible all about Jesus? *Help kids recognize that Jesus was God's plan all along. Adam and Eve sinned, so God worked out His plan to send Jesus to rescue people from sin. The Old Testament points forward to Jesus' life, death, and resurrection—the time when Jesus would bring God's promised salvation for sinners.*

(Option: Choose a volunteer to read Gen. 3:15.)

How do you think the disciples must have felt to finally realize the person they saw was Jesus? *Invite kids to share their thoughts. Compare the disciples' recognition of Jesus to the transformation we might experience when we trust in Him for salvation. When Jesus saves us, He brings light into our dark lives.*

We were dead in sin, but He makes us alive.

(Option: Choose a volunteer to read John 5:24.)

Activity choice (10 minutes)

Option 1: On the move

orange cones or other movable objects

bandannas or blindfolds

Tip: Use this activity option to reinforce the missions moment from Teach the Story.

Scatter the cones in the middle of the room.

Blindfold a few volunteers and challenge them to find the cones. Quietly ask other kids to move the cones as kids get close. Try to keep the volunteers from finding the cones.

After a minute, tell the volunteers to take off their blindfolds and direct all kids to sit down. Ask the blindfolded volunteers why it was so hard to find the cones. (*Other people kept moving them!*)

Say • Missionary Peter Station is trying to reach a people group of nomads. People who are *nomadic* move around a lot. Peter might think that he knows where to find them, but often when he arrives, they have moved to another place and he can't find them. This is a challenge for sure, but it won't stop him or other Christians from working to share the good news.

Take time to pray for Peter and other missionaries who are sharing the good news that Jesus defeated sin and death.

Option: Review the gospel with boys and girls. Explain that kids are welcome to speak with you or another teacher if they have questions.

large sheets of paper

markers and crayons

colored tissue paper

scissors

Option 2: Clear the confusion

Form small groups of kids, giving each group a set of supplies. Ask them to write on their paper one example of an Old Testament story that points to Jesus.

Kids should position colored tissue paper over the writing to make a multi-layered mosaic or stained glass window that makes the writing difficult to read.

Invite teams to walk around, looking at the other teams' completed projects and trying to read them. Then remove the tissue to clearly read the paper.

Say • The world around us will try to crowd your mind with thoughts and beliefs that do not agree with God's Word. We have to clear away the wrong messages, weeding out the lies, to see God's way clearly.

Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus will help you understand God's Word when you read it so you can know the truth from the lies.

Jesus taught that all the Scriptures point to Him. Everything in God's Word points to Jesus as the Savior God promised.

Journal and prayer (5 minutes)

pencils

Journal Page

"Do You See It Now?" activity page, 1 per kid

Tip: Give parents this week's *Big Picture Cards for Families* to allow families to interact with the biblical content at home.

Distribute journal pages and pencils. Guide kids to think about and answer the questions listed on the page:

What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?

What does the story teach me about myself?

Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?

Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?

How does this story help me to live on mission better?

As kids journal, invite them to share their ideas. Then pray, thanking Jesus for making a way for us to have eternal life and helping us understand this truth through His Word.

As time allows, lead kids to complete "Do You See It Now?" on the activity page.



**Jesus said to her,
“I am the resurrection and
the life. Whoever believes
in me, though he die,
yet shall he live.”**

John 11:25



Jesus taught that all the Scriptures point to Him.



Where is Jesus now?



Where is Jesus now?

Jesus ascended to
heaven where He is
seated at the right
hand of the Father.



Journal Page

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?



The Emmaus Disciples

Luke 24

STORY POINT: JESUS TAUGHT THAT ALL THE SCRIPTURES POINT TO HIM.

On the day that Jesus rose from the dead, two of Jesus' disciples were walking to a village called Emmaus. The two disciples were talking about everything that had happened. As they talked, Jesus began to walk with them, but the disciples did not recognize Him. Jesus asked the disciples, "What are you talking about?"

They told Him, "The religious leaders handed Jesus over to be sentenced to death, and they nailed Him to a cross."

"We had hoped He was the One who would set Israel free. Early this morning, some women went to the tomb and did not find Jesus' body. They saw angels, who said that Jesus is alive."

Jesus said, "Isn't this what had to happen to the Messiah?" Then, beginning with Moses and the Prophets, Jesus explained what all the Scriptures said about Him.

Jesus and the two disciples arrived at Emmaus. Jesus joined them at the dinner table. He took the bread, thanked God for it, and broke it into pieces. Then He gave the pieces to the disciples. Right away, the disciples recognized Jesus! But Jesus immediately disappeared from their sight.

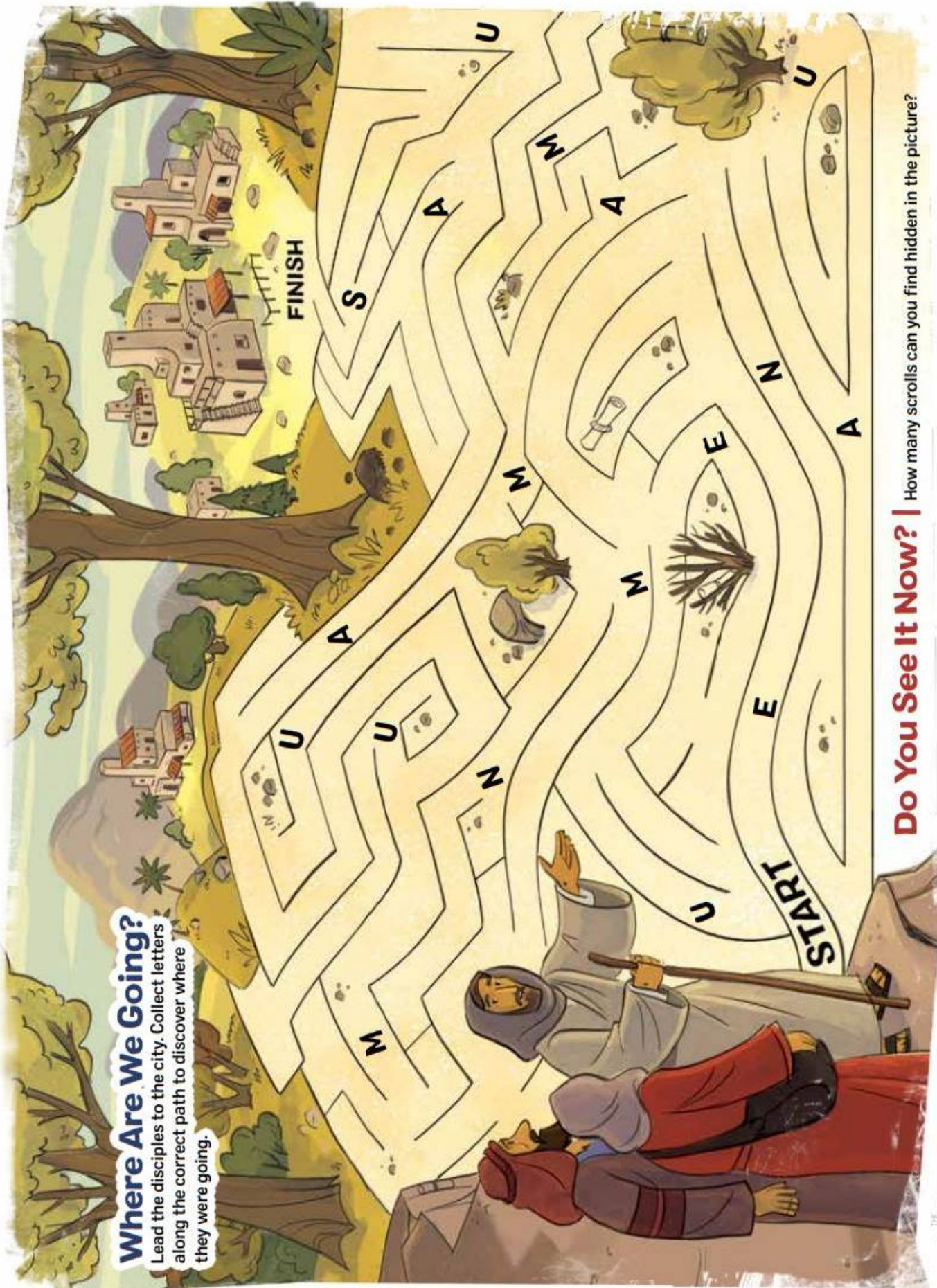
The disciples immediately left Emmaus and went back to Jerusalem. They found Jesus' eleven disciples and others who gathered with them. They told them what happened. They said, "Jesus is alive!"



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FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- What is the Bible all about?
- Why is reading the Bible important? (See Psalm 119:105.)
- Share something you've learned from the Bible that was confusing or surprising to you.



Where Are We Going?

Lead the disciples to the city. Collect letters along the correct path to discover where they were going.

Do You See It Now? | How many scrolls can you find hidden in the picture?