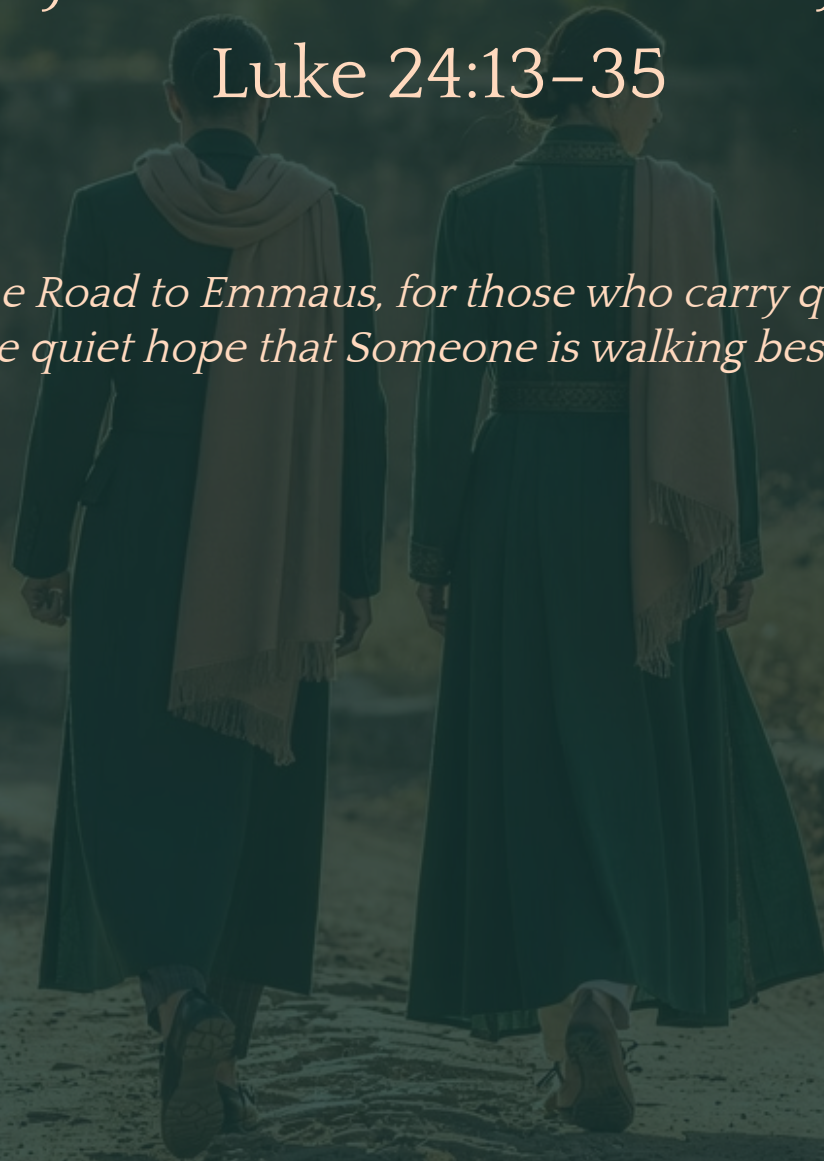


# Walking with the Risen Christ

A 5 Day Devotional Bible Study from  
Luke 24:13–35

*Based on the Road to Emmaus, for those who carry questions, grief,  
and the quiet hope that Someone is walking beside them.*



# Walking in the Fog

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## Key Verse

*"While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him."*

Luke 24:15 to 16

## Devotional

The two disciples on the road to Emmaus weren't doing anything dramatic. They were just walking, trudging really, under the weight of crushed expectations. Jesus had died. Everything they thought they understood about God's plan had unraveled in a single weekend. So they did what most of us do when life stops making sense: they talked it through, over and over, trying to analyze their way out of heartbreak.

Then Jesus appeared, right there on the road, walking next to them, and they had absolutely no idea it was him. This is one of the most quietly stunning details in all of scripture. The risen Lord is *right there*, and grief and confusion have made them functionally blind to his presence. This isn't a failure of faith, it's a deeply human moment. When we're stuck in the fog of disappointment, it can be genuinely difficult to recognize that God is near. The fog is real. But so is the One walking beside you.

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## Reflection Questions

1. When have you realized God was there but missed it at the time?
  2. What grief or confusion clouds God's nearness for you?
  3. What does it mean that Jesus came near and walked with them?
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## Prayer

Lord Jesus, there are days when I walk in a fog I can't quite name, grief, confusion, disappointment, or the weight of things not going the way I hoped. On those days, remind me that you are already near. You don't wait for me to have it all figured out before you draw close. Walk with me today, even when I can't yet see you. Amen.

# The Word That Warms the Heart

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## Key Verse

*"Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"*

Luke 24:32

## Devotional

Before the disciples recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread, something was already happening. Their hearts were stirring. A warmth was building as this stranger walked and talked, opening the scriptures and pointing to Moses, the prophets, and the whole story of God's faithfulness, showing how Jesus was woven through it all. They didn't understand it yet, but something was alive in them on that road.

This is what the Word of God does. It works on us before we're fully aware of it. A passage heard a hundred times suddenly lands differently. A sermon connects to something you've been carrying.

We don't always get a dramatic light-from-heaven experience, but there is often a quieter kindling: a warmth in the chest, a sense that something true has just been spoken. Don't underestimate the slow, steady work of scripture in your life. Hearts don't usually catch fire all at once. Sometimes they warm up little by little, one Sunday, one passage, one prayer at a time.

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## Reflection Questions

1. When has scripture or a sermon "warmed your heart"?
2. Do you prefer dramatic encounters with God, or the slow work of scripture?
3. How can you make more room for scripture to work slowly in you?

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## Prayer

Lord, open the scriptures to me as you opened them to those two disciples on the road. Let your Word do its work in me, not only in moments of big emotion or sudden clarity, but in the ordinary, patient reading and hearing of your story. Set my heart on fire, slowly if you must, but surely. Amen.

# Known in the Breaking of Bread

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## Key Verse

*"When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him."*

Luke 24:30 to 31

## Devotional

Of all the ways the risen Jesus could have revealed himself, he chose this: a simple meal—bread taken, blessed, broken, and given. It's the most ordinary gesture in the world, and the one that opened their eyes.

There's something deeply important here about where Jesus chooses to be found. Not in the spectacular or the exotic or the carefully engineered spiritual experience, but in bread, in the familiar, in the repeated gifts handed down by ordinary people in ordinary rooms.

This is the gift of the Lord's Supper. We don't come because we've achieved a spiritual breakthrough or feel especially holy; we come because Christ invites us. We receive grace freely, not earned, and in that receiving, eyes open. Sometimes it's dramatic, but often it's quiet: *Oh. He's here. He's always been here.* You don't have to manufacture the presence of God. You just have to show up at the table he has set.

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## Reflection Questions

1. What does Jesus choosing the ordinary mean to you?
2. How do you approach the Lord's Supper?
3. Where else do you meet God in the ordinary?

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## Prayer

Jesus, thank you for choosing the ordinary. Thank you for meeting us in bread and cup, in water, in gathered people, in ancient words spoken again. Open my eyes at the table. Help me recognize you in the simple gifts you keep giving, and receive what you are already offering. Amen.

# The Ancient Rhythm That Sustains Us

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## Key Verse

*"So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter."*

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Thessalonians  
2:15

## Devotional

You've probably heard of the blue zones, those rare pockets of the world where people live the longest, healthiest lives. What do these places have in common? Simple living: walking the same paths, eating real food, gathering with the same people, year after year.

The Christian life has always had its own version of this. Week after week, the same creed, the same Lord's Prayer, the same gathering, the same confession, the same Word, the same table. These are gifts handed down across generations, worn smooth with use, and they still carry the living Christ. We live in a culture obsessed with novelty, but there's a particular grace in the ancient and the repeated.

Don't be too quick to trade the ancient path for a faster route. Sometimes the oldest road is exactly the one that leads you home.

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## Reflection Questions

1. What rhythms sustain you most?
2. What inherited practice has grown in meaning?
3. How do you hold new and old together?

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## Prayer

Lord, in a world that tells me newer is always better, give me wisdom to treasure what is ancient and true. Thank you for the generations who have prayed these words before me and will pray them long after I'm gone. Help me find you not in the spectacular and the novel, but in the steady, patient rhythm of a life lived close to you. Amen.

# Recognized and Sent

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## Key Verse

*"That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem."*

Luke 24:33

## Devotional

The moment the disciples recognized Jesus, they got up that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. We gather. We receive. We are sent.

This is the shape of Christian worship and the shape of the Christian life. Christ meets you in the Word, at the table, and in the gathered community. Then you go back into the world. The disciples returned with a story, not a system: *We have seen the Lord. He was made known to us in the breaking of the bread.* That's enough. Receive the grace offered here, then carry it back into your home and work. Christ is already walking there too, and sometimes he just needs someone who has learned to recognize him. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

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## Reflection Questions

1. Where is Christ already walking near you?
  2. What story are you carrying this week?
  3. Which part of gather, receive, go needs growth?
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## Prayer

Risen Lord, thank you for walking with me even when I did not recognize you. Thank you for the table, the Word, and the people who have handed down the faith to me. Open my eyes to see you in the ordinary moments of this week, and send me not because I have it all together, but because I have been with you. Let me carry your presence back into the world, and may someone else's eyes be opened because of it. Amen.