

We are at the second to last passage in the gospel of Luke. We are almost to the very end. What we are going to find here is that Jesus is going to appear to his disciples after his resurrection. And the appearance of Jesus is not just going to show us that he is alive, but it's going to tell us something significant about Jesus.

Because the way that Jesus chooses to reveal himself to his disciples. Is more than just how Jesus did it then. It is not just the story of how Jesus revealed himself after the resurrection. What we find here is that Jesus teaches us about how he will reveal himself to us today.

Because we are living 2000 years after the resurrection, we are still living in the effects of the resurrection. And Jesus is still alive. And Jesus still reveals himself to his disciples today.

So turn with me to Luke 24:13 and let's see how Jesus reveals himself.

I. Jesus reveals himself to nobodies (v. 13-24)

And the very first encounter Luke shows us.
The first time that Jesus appears is here.
Not to the women and the first witnesses.
Not to His disciples and apostles.
He appears to two nobodies.

And what we find in this story is the heart of Christ.
He did not come to speak only with kings and queens.
He did not come to hobnob with the famous.
He did not come to only spend time with the most holy.
He did not come to debate with the best and brightest.
Jesus came for everyone.

Jesus came for the poor.
Jesus came for the sick.
Jesus came for the overlooked.
Jesus came for those who doubted and wondered.
Jesus came for all of us.

Verse 13, **"That very day two of them were going to village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem."**

They appear to be disciples since they are **"two of them"**

But we do not know much about them.

They appear to be nobody particular important.

They are heading to a place called Emmaus, which is likely where they lived.

Emmaus is just a small nowhere village.

It was likely so small that we aren't sure where it is anymore.

It was like those towns you pass by that only have a few houses in them.

But Jesus cares about that village.

Because Jesus did not just care about the cities and the popular places.

Jesus cared about those in overlooked rural areas.

Verse 14, **"and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened."**

They are talking about the events of Holy Week.

Mostly they are talking about the execution of Jesus.

And they are talking about his alleged resurrection.

It appears like they are debating and arguing about them.

They do not quite know what to make of everything that has happened.

Verse 15, **"While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus Himself drew near and went with them."**

While they are engaged in their talk, Jesus appears.

They are walking on the road and Jesus just so happens to join them.

He walks closer at first until He catches them and walks alongside them.

This is one of my favorite stories.

It is filled with such great humor and irony.

But it is important to see that Jesus draws near to them.

This is not just describing the physical closeness of how Christ approaches.

This is describing that Jesus is coming to them spiritually.

Jesus is drawing near to them so that they might see Him.

Verse 16, **"But their eyes were kept from recognizing them."**

Somehow they are unable to see Jesus.

It is not because they are dumb and don't recognize Him.

Jesus is not wearing a disguise.

The verb is passive which means something else is keeping them from recognizing Him.

This could be God's power doing it.

Or it could be their lack of faith in the resurrection.

Verse 17, **"And he said to them "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad."**

They actually appear to stop walking.

This conversation is happening as they travel.

This question makes them stop.

And it makes them stop in their grief.

Verse 18, **"Then one of them, named Cleopas,"**

Now we do not know anything else about these two.

We do not know the other one's name.

We do not know if they become leaders in the church.

We do not have any other legends or stories of their lives.

Historically, they are no one significant at all.

They have been completely lost and faded to time.

But Jesus drew near to them.

Jesus believed they were significant.

Jesus took time out of His ministry to walk and talk and listen to them.

Verse 18, **"Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"**

This is a hilarious thing to ask Jesus.

He asked him if Jesus has been living under a rock?

Everyone knows what would've been happening and they're talking about what every single person in the city has been talking about. This builds up the tension in the irony of the situation.

19 And he said to them, "What things?"

Jesus just says, **"what things?"**

This is an amazing gracious response.

We don't know, but I imagine Jesus probably had a twinkle in His eye, and maybe even a smile on His face.

But even in this response, we see some of Jesus's grace.

These people are asking the risen and resurrected Jesus if He's heard about the death and resurrection of Jesus.

And they're kind of insulting Jesus.

But Jesus response, not by insulting them back,

But He responded with grace and just ask questions.

Because Jesus has not come to show off to the little people and make them feel dumb.

Jesus came to these people in this place to show them grace and because He wants to reveal Himself to them.

And He wants to do it in a way they will never forget.

And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,

And so they explain.

They tell Jesus that they're talking about Jesus of Nazareth.

But not the way they describe Jesus.

They say that Jesus was a prophet.

They rightly believes that He spoke for God.

They rightly believed He was sent by God.

But they weren't fully convinced he was God.

They weren't convinced He was the son of God, or the son of man.

They think He was a prophet.

20 and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. 21 But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened.”

They say people killed him in 21.

They said that they hoped he was the one to redeem Israel.

This is a messianic hope and a messianic expectation .

They are saying that they hoped he was the Messiah.

They wish that he was the Messiah.

They thought that maybe he really was the Messiah but since He's dead, He must've just been a prophet.

They have some faith, but they don't fully understand .

22 Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, 23 and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive.”

They have heard the report of the women at the resurrection of Jesus.

And they say that this is amazing.

They don't know where Jesus body is, and angels appear to tell them that Jesus was alive.

24 Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.”

Some of them went to the tomb and found that Jesus indeed is gone, but they haven't seen Jesus body yet.

These men do not know what to think.

This is what they are talking about.

They are trying to decide if they believe the resurrection or not

They're trying to decide if the resurrection makes sense or not

They are trying to decide if Jesus really is the Messiah or not.

They are amazed, but on the fence.

Again, when I just find so captivating is that Jesus takes the time to appear to these nobodies on the road.

And Luke is the only one who gives us this account.

Jesus choosing these two to appear to first,

shows us that He cares about the littlest and the least.

Jesus cares about those who are overlooked and forgotten

Jesus cares about the unnamed and the unnoticed.

Jesus cares about you.

Whoever you are whatever you think of your standing in the world.

You are not too small for Christ.

Jesus does not get around to us when He feels like it.

Jesus puts nobodies at the top of His list.

Jesus chooses prioritize you as well.

Jesus does not appear to those who have great faith because these two don't believe the resurrection yet.

But Jesus comes to them.

And when I say that Jesus still reveals himself to us, and to nobody's today.

The natural question is, how does He do that?

We believe that Jesus is ascended and sitting at the right hand of the father interceding on behalf of you and me right now, physically.

So He is not normally walking up to us on the side of the road as we travel.

How does Jesus reveal Himself to us?

The way Jesus reveals Himself is in point number two

II. Jesus reveals himself in Scripture (v. 25-27)

You see Jesus, continually and constantly reveals Himself in the Scriptures.

When you read God's word.

When you hear God's word read.

When you study the Bible, and every single one of those moments, Jesus is coming up on the road of your life and walking alongside you.

And the Holy Spirit is pressing on your heart and asking you questions like what are you thinking? What are you talking about?

What does this appear to mean?

Every time you come to God's word, Jesus is there.

And He is trying to reveal Himself to you.

The question is whether you will have eyes to see or not.

The two disciples don't have eyes to see, yet.

25 And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!"

Jesus does not reveal Himself to them at this moment.

Jesus does not say Jesus is alive, and I am him look and see.

Instead, Jesus begins with the rebuke.

He says that they should believe Jesus is risen because this is what God revealed, and foretold in the scriptures would happen.

This is what all the prophets said was going to happen.

And this is what the prophet Jesus said, was going to happen.

And they are slow to believe.

Notice it is their hearts that are slow to believe.

I think that minds can be changed quickly.

We can learn new things and gain new information and change your opinion on something intellectually very fast if we need to.

But our hearts are very slow.

Our hearts often want to deny things that we know are true.

Or our hearts want to affirm things that our minds are false.

Jesus is trying to changed their hearts.

He wants them to see that the scriptures try to prepare them for this moment.

The scriptures tried to tell them that Jesus was going to come back.

Verse 26, "**Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?"**

Jesus is saying that you studied the scriptures this would not be surprising. If they had listened to the prophets that they would know that Jesus was obviously going to have to die.

There was no other way for him to redeem Israel, than to suffer.

He would not come conquering.

He had to come suffering.

His glory would only come after his death.

His resurrection was going to happen, but first he had to die.

If they had studied the Scriptures and they would get it.

Verse 27, **“And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.”**

Jesus actually takes the time to walk through the Bible.

This is a long walk.

It was a long conversation.

But it appears that Jesus started in Genesis and kept going.

He probably did not touch on every verse.

But He explained how **“all the Scriptures”** pointed to Christ.

Every single book in the Bible points to Jesus.

Some do it in huge obvious ways.

Some do it prophetically.

Some do it in small ways.

Let me try to show you.

In **Genesis**, Jesus is the seed of Abraham who brings blessing to the entire world and overcomes the curse.

In **Exodus**, Jesus is the passover lamb whose blood delivers us from death and the one who rescues us from the slavery of sin.

In **Leviticus**, Jesus is the one who makes us holy so we can worship God.

In **Numbers**, Jesus is the one who leads us through the wilderness towards the promised land.

In **Deuteronomy**, Jesus is the greater Moses and the city of refuge we can run to in times of danger.

In **Joshua**, Jesus is the greater conqueror who will defeat all powers of sin, darkness, and death.

In **Judges**, Jesus is the better judge who shows people grace even after they sin again and again and again and again.

In **Ruth**, Jesus is the kinsmen redeemer who sacrifices of Himself to save widows and the poor.

In **1 & 2 Samuel**, Jesus is the faithful shepherd King who never fails.

In **1 & 2 Kings**, Jesus is the true son of David whose reign will endure forever.

In **1 & 2 Chronicles**, Jesus is the king whose rule leads to blessing.

In **Ezra**, Jesus tears down the temple and rebuilds in His own body.

In **Nehemiah**, Jesus rebuilds what has been destroyed in our lives by sin and makes us a new creation.

In **Esther**, Jesus takes the evil plan of the enemy to destroy God's people and reverses it to destroy the enemy instead.

In **Job**, Jesus is the one who suffers alongside side us and in our place.

In the **Psalms**, Jesus prays each Psalm with us and is the reason we praise.

In **Proverbs**, Jesus is the incarnation of wisdom.

In **Ecclesiastes**, Jesus is the one who gives our lives lasting purpose.

In the **Song of Songs**, Jesus is the bridegroom who loves us and is coming to marry us.

In **Isaiah**, Jesus the suffering servant who will be born of a virgin and comes to heal the sick.

In **Jeremiah**, Jesus is the one who weeps for the lost.

In **Lamentations**, Jesus is the one whose mercies are new every morning.

In **Ezekiel**, Jesus is the one who breathes new life into dry bones.

In **Daniel**, Jesus is with His people as they pass through the flames.

In **Hosea**, Jesus is faithful to His people even when they are an adulterous bride.

In **Joel**, Jesus is the one who restores what the locusts have stolen.

In **Amos**, Jesus is the one who will let justice roll down like the waters.

In **Obadiah**, Jesus is the one who will bring justice for the oppressed.

In **Jonah**, Jesus has an unrelenting, unending, never giving up on us love that we cannot escape no matter how far we run.

In **Micah**, Jesus is the one who casts all of our sins into the depths of the sea.

In **Nahum**, Jesus is the one who takes the wrath and punishment we deserve upon Himself.

In **Habakkuk**, Jesus is the one who does a work we cannot believe.

In **Zephaniah**, Jesus is the one who turns our shame into praise.

In **Haggai**, Jesus is later temple whose glory is even greater than the former temple made out of stones.

In **Zechariah**, Jesus is the one who comes on a donkey and takes away our iniquity.

In **Malachi**, Jesus is the one who brings healing in His wings.

In **Matthew**, Jesus is the Messiah and the King of the Jews they have waited for.

In **Mark**, Jesus is the son of man who came to seek the sick and the lost.

In **Luke**, Jesus has come to enact His kingdom through His life, death, resurrection, and ascension.

In **John**, Jesus is the son of God who came to bring salvation.

In **Acts**, Jesus empowers and commissions His disciples to reach the world.

In **Romans**, Jesus is the 2nd Adam who justifies us and makes us righteous.

In **1 Corinthians**, Jesus chooses the foolish to shame the wise.

In **2 Corinthians**, Jesus is the one who makes us a new creation.

In **Galatians**, Jesus is the one who sets us free from the bondage of the law.

In **Ephesians**, Jesus is the one who makes what is dead alive and raises us up to rule with Him.

In **Philippians**, Jesus is the name above of all names that every tongue will confess.

In **Colossians**, Jesus is the one who will reconcile to Himself all things whether in heaven or in earth.

In **1 Thessalonians**, Jesus is the one who brings resurrection to those who have fallen asleep.

In **2 Thessalonians**, Jesus is the one coming who will bring vengeance and justice to the wicked,

In **1 Timothy**, Jesus is the one who came into the world to save sinners.

In **2 Timothy**, Jesus is the promise of life.

In **Titus**, Jesus is the hope for eternal life, promised before the ages began

In **Philemon**, Jesus takes people who are separated by the world and unites them as family in the body of Christ.

In **Hebrews**, Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

In **James**, Jesus is the one who has chosen the poor as His heirs.

In **1 Peter**, Jesus gives us an imperishable, undefiled, and unfading inheritance.

In **2 Peter**, Jesus lets us become partakers of the divine nature.

In **1 John**, Jesus is the manifestation and revelation of God's love

In **2 John**, Jesus is God in flesh.

In **3 John**, Jesus is the one who makes it go well with our souls.

In **Jude**, Jesus is the now who is able to keep us from stumbling.

In **Revelation**, Jesus the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the conquering King, the victorious hero who will destroy the dragon, and the one who is coming to wipe away every tear from every eye and cast sin and death into the shadow.

That was just a few minutes.

Jesus probably talked to them for a few hours.

And that is just scratching the surface of where Jesus is in the Scriptures.

That is just a tiny appetizer for the full banquet feast that awaits you when you come to God's word.

Jesus has revealed Himself in the scriptures

Jesus is revealing Himself in the Scriptures.

In Jesus will reveal Himself in the scriptures for any who come to look.

And you the rest of your life, studying each book for Jesus, to see how they all point to Him, explain Him and teach us more about Him. And you will never discover it all.

One of the reasons that we highly value the Bible, and we highly value. God word, is it because it reveals Jesus to us. It is not just because it is the word of God. It is also that it shows us the son of God. And as we read it, He reveals Himself to us if he's walking alongside us. So read God's word. Starting with any book you want. Because Jesus is in all of them

III. Jesus reveals Himself in communion (v. 28-35).

Jesus is finally going to completely reveal Himself. He's going to remove the veil from their mind and show them that He is Jesus and He is alive. And the way that Jesus will do this is through communion. The way Jesus finally shows Himself is by sharing the table together.

And the reason that Jesus doesn't fully reveal Himself in the scriptures, but does so at the table is because we need more than just understanding. Jesus does reveal Himself in the Scriptures every time you read it. But you will not have eyes to see Jesus until you come to Him. You will not fully see and understand Jesus until you come and follow Him. Until you fellowship with Jesus, you will not get Jesus.

Verse 28, **"So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther,"**

You see Jesus acts like He's going to leave them. Jesus is waiting to see what they're gonna do. If they want Jesus to come with them, He will. If they don't want Jesus to come with them, then He won't.

This is what I mean when I say that you have to fellowship with Jesus. If you don't want fellowship with Jesus, then you're going to miss Him.

Verse 29, **"but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them."**

But they do want Jesus to come.

They do want fellowship with Jesus.

They might not recognize who He is yet.

But their hearts are drawn to Him, and they strongly are longing, and urging for Him to come.

Because faith doesn't have to have it all figured out.

Faith does not have to have all the answers.

Faith doesn't even have to be totally sure who Jesus is,

But you have to strongly want Jesus to be in your life.

And they urge Jesus to come and stay with them so they can hear, and they can learn more about what He has to say.

Verse 30, **"When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them."**

Jesus stays with them in the next time we see they are at the table together.

Jesus takes bread and He blesses it.

He speaks over it.

He breaks it, and then He gives it to them to eat.

Now there are some who will say that this isn't Jesus observing communion with them.

That it's normal to bless your meals together.

It's normal to call a meal, the breaking of bread together.

Some say that this is really just Jesus sharing a meal together and fellowship with them.

Especially because it does not mention the cup.

But I don't think so when you look at the gospel of Luke. Because in the last section next week, Jesus will share a meal with his disciples, but it doesn't say that He takes bread and breaks it. And the last time we saw Jesus, eating and breaking bread, it was at the communion table. At the Lord's supper.

I think this is communion. Because even if it's not communion, and I'm stretching a little bit. Or if I'm reading a little too much into it, that's not there. Jesus is about to reveal Himself. And He will reveal Himself around the table in the breaking of bread, having and sharing a meal with His disciples.

How can we apply that today? Well, every week as we gather as a church, we can break bread and drink a cup and gather together around the table and eat and drink and fellowship with Jesus.

At worst I'm taking a natural application of this text.

Verse 31, **"And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight."**

You see it is when Jesus breaks the bread, and when they take it, then their eyes are opened.

It is only as they're about to partake of the body in the blood of Jesus, that the flesh and blood of Jesus is revealed to them.

Miraculously, that's when Jesus disappears.

Jesus further proves that he has gone by working miracle.

In the Old Testament, when they would prepare food offerings and sacrifices, sometimes the fire would consume it to show them that God had accepted it. As the food vanished.

Here the food doesn't vanish, Jesus does.

Verse 32, **"They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?"**

They recognize now that Jesus had been tugging at their hearts.

They had been seen the beginning of Jesus, revealing himself in the Scriptures.

They had felt Jesus in the Bible, but now, when they came to the table, they saw him fully.

And one of the things that we need to see here is that communion in the scriptures are inseparable.

You cannot understand one without the other.

A proper understanding of the scriptures lead you to have fellowship with Jesus.

It leads you to walk in obedience and observe the communion meal that Jesus asked us to.

And a right observance of communion and fellowship, with Jesus, leads you to study the scriptures to spend more time with Jesus.

If you're only doing one of these regularly, you are missing out.

Part of the reason I think the communion should be a regular weekly in the life of the church.

Because we need both.

And only after breaking bread does Jesus reveals Himself to them.

Verse 33, **"And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, ³⁴ saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!"**

The moment that Jesus reveals Himself to them, they run back to Jerusalem.

They have to run back to tell everyone what they have seen about Jesus

They have to run back and tell everyone what they have experienced with Jesus.

But when they get to Jerusalem, the apostles of something to share too.
The apostles have also seen Jesus.
Peter has seen Jesus.
They know that Jesus is alive.
And now, these two confirm the apostles message, and say yes, Jesus came to us too.

Verse 35, **"Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread."**

So they give their report of what Jesus came.
And they end again that Jesus appeared to them when they broke the bread together.
It doesn't just say that they told him what it happened.
Luke is specific and letting us know that the revelation of Jesus came at the table.

Because when we come to the table, Jesus also reveals Himself to us still today.

When we come to the communion table.

When we read the words of institution, and the words of scripture teaching us about Jesus.

When we lift up the bread and break it and take an eat Jesus reveals His broken body for us.

When we take the cup and drink of it, Jesus reveals the shed blood of the new covenant for us.

When we eat together at the table, Jesus is sitting at the table among us, revealing Himself in the body of Christ.

Something special happens when we gather as Gods people to observe the Lords supper.

One of the most special things that happens is, Jesus reveals Himself.

That as we eat, and we drink, Jesus is unveiling our eyes, and helping us see Him better.

As we eat, and as we drink, Jesus is softening our hearts, helping us see Him more.

CONCLUSION:

Jesus reveals Himself to nobody's.

Jesus reveals Himself in the Scriptures

Jesus reveals Himself in communion.

Now, Jesus has been revealing Himself to us in the Scriptures just now, as we've read, and settled them together. And we're about to observe communion together. Because I think it would be unwise to think and hear about, Jesus, revealing himself at the table, and then not go to the table to see Jesus.

So I invite you to come to the table.

Come to the table and have your eyes open that you may behold Jesus.