

Lk 24:13 Now behold, two of them were traveling that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was seven miles from Jerusalem.

24:14 And they talked together of all these things which had happened.

24:15 So it was, while they conversed and reasoned, that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them.

24:16 But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him.

24:17 And He said to them, "What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?"

24:18 Then the one whose name was Cleopas answered and said to Him, "Are You the only stranger in Jerusalem, and have You not known the things which happened there in these days?"

24:19 And He said to them, "What things?" So they said to Him, "The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,

24:20 "and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and crucified Him.

24:21 "But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened.

24:22 "Yes, and certain women of our company, who arrived at the tomb early, astonished us.

24:23 "When they did not find His body, they came saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said He was alive.

24:24 "And certain 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."

24:25 Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!

24:26 "Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?"

24:27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

24:28 Then they drew near to the village where they were going, and He indicated that He would have gone farther.

24:29 But they constrained Him, saying, "Abide with us, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent." And He went in to stay with them.

24:30 Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.

24:31 Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight.

24:32 And they said to one another, "Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with

us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?"

24:33 So they rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together,

24:34 saying, "The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!"

24:35 And they told about the things that had happened on the road, and how He was known to them in the breaking of bread.

Good morning, everyone.

Last week, we offered worship services in thanksgiving for the joyous resurrection of our Lord. The Lord bore our sins and our guilt, went to the cross, died as a substitute for our sins, atoned for our sins, and resurrected from the dead on the third day.

In spite of that joyous morning, there were various scenes on the morning of His resurrection that were not befitting of such a joyous occasion.

The women were at a loss when they saw that the body of the Lord was not in the tomb.

When they saw the angels sent to announce the joyous news, they were so amazed and afraid that they fell on their faces to the ground, afraid to even look at each other.

When the women returned to the disciples and told them the whole story, the disciples thought it was foolishness, nonsense, and empty babble, and scoffed.

This was the reaction and response of those who believed in Jesus.

Why do you ask the living among the dead?

He is not here. He is risen. Remember what He told you when He was still in Galilee.

We, too, must ask ourselves whether we truly believe in the living God as the One who is alive and well, the One who has risen from the dead.

In today's passage, we see Jesus walking beside the disciples, but the disciples' eyes were shielded and they could not recognize Him.

Jesus is right in front of them, but they don't know it, and they stop on the road with dark, sad faces.

What a misguided event to stop and grieve when the Lord is with them. How can we be afraid or sad when the Lord is alive and with us?

New Chant 474 "The Lord Put My Hand"

The Lord takes my hand, He takes my hand.  
Why should we be afraid or run away  
In the Lord's gentle hands I leave everything  
What a blessing it is to be able to travel

2

Sometimes it rains, sometimes it winds  
Sometimes it's the rain, sometimes it's the wind, sometimes it's the wind  
What a blessing it is to leave everything in the Lord's tender hands  
What a blessing to be able to travel

3

How long shall I walk, and how far shall I go?  
It's up to the Lord to do His will  
Leave everything in the Lord's tender hands  
What a blessing to be able to travel

4

No one can reach it. Even the rivers are not troubled.  
With the Lord following me, I will cross them without reason  
Leave everything in the Lord's tender hands  
What a blessing to be able to travel!

But all of this is sobering for us. We, too, are weak, insecure, and slow to believe.

Let us savor today's passage, verse by verse.

13 On this day two of the disciples went to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem,

14 And they were talking with one another about the whole matter.

15 While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself approached them and walked with them.

It was the first day of the week, the day of the resurrection, a Sunday, and the disciples were in a turmoil due to the events of the morning.

In the midst of such a whirlwind, two disciples of the Lord left that Jerusalem and set out for

a small village called Emmaus, 11 kilometers away, and they could not find the body of Jesus on the road, and an angel appeared and spoke to the women, and the disciples had no idea what he was talking about because they could not believe what they heard the women testify. They had no idea, but they half-heartedly talked and argued about the story that Peter ran to the tomb and, as the women had said, there was no body in the tomb. I think that no matter how much they talked and argued, something like a fog never lifted.

Korean churches are often called praying churches. Churches in Taiwan are churches that sing, and churches in Africa are churches that dance. Each of these churches is characterized by their frequent prayer and praise. Japanese churches are often said to be churches that hold meetings. It is important to discuss and make plans, but it would be sad if that is all there is to it.

13 On this day, two disciples went to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem,

14 And the two disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and were talking with each other about the whole matter.

15 While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself approached them and walked with them.

They were so heatedly discussing and debating that they did not realize that the person walking right next to them was Jesus. Strangely enough, their eyes were thickly shut and shielded.

As the saying goes, "It is darkest under the lampstand," and sometimes we too are blind to what is going on around us when we are in a state of agitation.

Simeon and Anna immediately recognized Jesus as a baby, but the chief priests and scribes were completely unaware that He was the Christ, the Messiah, the Son of God.

It is just like this verse in Matthew 13.

13:14 Thus was fulfilled upon them the prophecy of Isaiah, who said. Isaiah said, "You will hear, but you will never understand; you will see, but you will never acknowledge; you will hear, but you will not understand. You will see, but you will never recognize.

13:15 The heart of this people is dulled, their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes are closed. 13:15 Their hearts are dulled, their ears are hardened, and their eyes are closed, that they may not see with their eyes, nor hear with their ears, nor understand with their hearts, but that they may repent and be healed.

But Jesus walks with the disciples who refuse to see Him as the Messiah, the Son of God.

Thinking about it, before we met Jesus, how much he accompanied us without knowing that we were so. Even after we believed in Him, how unknowingly He continued to walk beside us when our hearts were full of sorrow, confusion, and anxiety, when the eyes of our hearts were thickly shut.

24:17 Jesus said to them, "What is this talk that you are telling each other as you walk?" They stood still, looking sad.

24:18 One of them, Cleopas, answered and said, "Do you not know what is happening in the city these days, even though you are staying in Jerusalem?"

24:19 "What of it?" they said, "Of Jesus of Nazareth. He was a prophet before God and all the people, powerful in deed and word,

24:20 And the chief priests and officials delivered him up to be put to death, and crucified him.

24:21 We had hoped that it would be he who would save Israel. And now, on top of that, this is the third day since this happened.

How is it that the disciples, who are with Jesus, are the ones asking, "How is it that you do not know what is happening in the city these days?"

The disciples are the ones who are asking, "Don't you know?" Jesus Himself is the one who was crucified, but the disciples are the ones who are asking, "How can you be with Jesus and not know that the one in front of you is Jesus?"

It is Jesus of Nazareth. But you have forgotten His powerful words, "Did He not say that the Son of Man would surely be delivered into the hands of sinners, be crucified, and rise again the third day? The disciples were the ones who completely forgot those powerful words.

That is a problem that often happens to us.

In our own sorrows and cares, worries and anxieties, we forget what the Lord has told us, and we do not even realize that we have a loving Lord right in front of us.

22 But a few of our companions, some women, surprised us. For when they went to the tomb early in the morning

23 And when they returned, they could not find the body of Jesus, but an angel appeared to them and told them, "He is alive.

24 Then some of our companions went to the tomb and looked, and found no Jesus, just as the women had said.

25 Then Jesus said, "Oh, you foolish and slow of heart, who cannot believe all that the prophets have taught you!

26 Was not Christ surely to suffer these things and enter into His glory?

It was necessary for our salvation that Christ should suffer, that He should have to suffer. And was it not as He foretold that He would undergo these afflictions and enter into His glory?

'Oh, you who are so foolish and slow of heart that you cannot believe all that the prophets have preached!'

O you who are foolish, ignorant, and slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken. O ye who are not able by faith to entrust your treasured things to the One whom you ought to believe because of His mighty promises," Jesus lamented about His disciples.

27 Saying this, He began with Moses and all the prophets, and preached the things which are written about Him throughout the Scriptures.

28 Then they approached the village to which they were going, but it appeared that Jesus was still going on.

29 Then he stopped them and said, "Stay with us. It is already dusk and the sun is setting. Jesus entered the house to stay with them.

30 And when they were at table together, He took bread, blessed it, and gave it to them,

31 And their eyes were opened, and they saw that it was Jesus. 31 And their eyes were opened, and they saw that it was Jesus; and they could no longer see him.

32 And they said to one another, "Did not our hearts burn within us when he spoke to us on the way and when he preached to us the Scriptures?"

Thus, beginning with Moses and all the prophets, Jesus preached the whole Bible and all that it reveals about Himself.

This was the time when the two disciples would later say, "Did not our hearts burn within us when He spoke to us on the road and when He preached the Scriptures to us?"

When the Lord reveals and explains His Word. The word "explained" is a word that means "to open. In other words, this preaching and testifying was an event that "opened" our eyes.

Psalms 119:129: Your testimony is marvelous. Therefore my soul will keep it.

119:130 When the Word is opened, it shines forth and gives wisdom to the unlearned.

119:131 I have opened my mouth wide and sought, because I long for your commandments.

119:132 Be gracious to me and have mercy on me, as you always do on those who love your

name.

119:133 Make my steps sure according to your promises, and do not let all iniquity rule over me.

With their hearts burning brightly and passionately, they gained courage, hope, and strength, and they longed to hear more and more of Jesus' words, the preaching of the Bible, and what the burning Scriptures had to say about Him. And now that the sun is setting, I beg you to stay.

In the past and in the present, our hearts burn within us when we are pointed to and revealed that the Bible is the word that speaks about Jesus. When Jesus in the Bible shines in our lives, when we are pointed to and understand Him from His Word by faith, our hearts burn and the power to live springs forth.

30 While He was at table with them, He took bread, blessed it, and gave it to them,  
31 Their eyes were opened and they saw that it was Jesus. Then they could no longer see Him.  
32 And they said to one another, "Did not our hearts burn within us when he spoke to us on the way and when he preached the Scriptures to us?  
33 And immediately they stood up and returned to Jerusalem, and saw that the eleven disciples and their companions were gathered together,  
34 "The Lord has indeed risen and appeared to Simon," they said.  
35 And the two of them told him what had happened on the way and how they had recognized Him by the way He was offering the bread.

No longer weary, they returned the way they had come, in joy, not minding the 11-kilometer journey, even though the sun was setting, to encourage their beloved fellow believers and to share their joy with them.

They were not the same as those who had stopped on the road, their steps heavy, their faces sad and in agony, unable to come to an end after much discussion and debate. We, too, are accompanied by the Lord.

I believe that if the Lord accompanies us and speaks to us, we, too, will be led back to the path of victory, where our hearts will burn, our spirits will be energized, our joy will be filled with hope, no matter how disappointing, how exitless, how lost, how sad, or how fleeing and escaping we may be.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for today's worship.

In last week's passage, we were taught how easy it is for people to be at a loss, to fall into fear,

and to see God's precious work as a foolish and meaningless story, but in today's passage, we are also taught that we stand still sadly, our eyes are closed, we are foolish and slow of heart, and we hear the Word of hope but do not believe in it. Please, please, please, please, please, please. Please speak to us along the paths of our lives, open the eyes of our hearts, and let us go forward in hope, trust, and joy. Bless our families and the people in our community. We pray in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.