

The Road to Emmaus

by Randy Buursma

(Two people should be on either side of Jesus-spacing should be at least feet apart from each other. If possible, use levels where Jesus is on the top step and the two men down one step)

Introduction: The following reading is based on Luke 24: 13-35. Two men are walking to Emmaus on Resurrection Sunday discussing the past week's events. A stranger walks besides them and joins in their conversation. The men do not recognize him as Jesus.

(Turning out to audience, away from Jesus)

1: Walking to Emmaus

2: Talking to a stranger

1: Explaining our confusion

2: Reliving our fears

(Turning in to Jesus)

1: Stranger, we considered him a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people.

J: The LORD said to me: I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers; I will put my words in his mouth, and he will tell them everything I command him. If anyone does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name, I myself will call him to account. (Deuteronomy 18: 17-19)

2: The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him;

J: But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was upon him,
and by his wounds we are healed. (Isaiah 53:5)

1: But we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel.

J: The days are coming," declares the LORD,
"when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch,
a King who will reign wisely
and do what is just and right in the land. (Jeremiah 23:5)

2: And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.

J: I have set the LORD always before me. Because he is at my right hand,
I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor will you let your Holy One see decay. (Psalm 16:8-10)

(Turning out to audience, away from Jesus)

- 1: Stopping in Emmaus
- 2: Talking to a friend
- 1: Our confusion explained
- 2: Our fears relieved

(Turning in to Jesus)

- 1: Stay and eat with us.
- 2: The day is almost over.
- 1: We have bread
- 2: Would you offer the blessing?

J: I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty. (John 6: 32-35)

(Still looking at Jesus)

- 1: Bread breaking
- 2: Blessing bestowing
- 1: Have you come down from heaven?
- 2: Are you the bread of life?

(Turning out to audience, away from Jesus)

- 1: Hearts burning
- 2: Eyes open
- 1: Grace receiving
- 2: Filled forever