

## CELEBRATING JESUS: STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

### Clarity: Walking with Jesus

**THEME:** This ends our short series “Celebrating Jesus: Studies in the Gospel of Luke.” It ends where the apostles’ and earliest disciples’ experience of Jesus ended – with the assurance that Jesus will continue to make things clear to those who continue to walk with him.

### ICE BREAKER

1. What are your comments about our six-week study of the Gospel of Luke? Did you feel “rushed”? Or did the survey of key themes keep you from getting “bogged down” in the study?
2. What new impressions of the Third Gospel do you have from our study?
3. What do you think Luke was trying hardest to communicate in his composition of this Gospel?
4. Don’t forget: Luke is the only one of the four Gospel writers to compose a follow-up to his account of the life of Jesus. How does the Luke-Acts material fit together? How do the two volumes complement each other?

### THINK

1. Ever have a truly significant life experience that made very little sense to you at the time – but turned out to be life-changing in retrospect?
2. Perhaps we should think of the Emmaus Journey that way! Two men who were discouraged met a stranger. But before their walk and conversation ended, their discouragement had become confident hope.
3. Don’t we sometimes chide ourselves for “failing to see the obvious”? Wonder if these two had that attitude when this experience had ended?
4. This study is about keeping our hearts open to the things God wants us to see in the course of our discipleship experience.

### EXAMINE

Read [Psalm 42](#) to answer the following questions:

1. This is a psalm that reflects a believer’s discouragement. Scholars don’t agree on the historical circumstances, but pick out some key words or phrases that describe the writer’s spiritual-emotional state.
2. What was the state of mind for Cleopas and his friend as they traveled toward Emmaus? Do any of the words or phrases you came up with in the first question seem to fit them and their conversation?
3. What information did they have about the resurrection claim as they were leaving Jerusalem?
4. Do you fault them for not waiting longer at Jerusalem? Explain.

5. Recall a time when you had a great loss or disappointment to face. How did you deal with it?
6. What are some modern life situations where we encounter people with dashed dreams? How can we best minister to them?

Read [John 9:1-41](#) as background for the following questions:

1. Two different forms of blindness are on display in this text. Name them. Which is worse?
2. What do you think kept the two disciples on the Emmaus Road from recognizing Jesus? What did Jesus do to prevent it?
3. Do you think the state of mind they were in contributed to their inability to recognize Jesus? Explain your answer.
4. What kept the people in John 9 from recognizing Jesus as their Messiah?
5. Have you ever known anyone who could not “see the obvious” about herself? About himself? About Jesus? Why does this sort of thing happen?

**THIS WEEK:** End your study session with a shared prayer for God to help you keep your hearts open to the people, opportunities, and truth God wants us to see.