



## DISCOURAGEMENT & DISSAPOINTMENT “The Unaware & Undeniable”

Luke 23:39-43 April 20, 2014

### Cleopas and His Friend Were...

- ✓ Devastated
- ✓ Discouraged & Disappointed
- ✓ Doubted & Disillusioned
- ✓ Defeated

### Their 180° Moment

- ✓ Jesus Attentively Listens to Them
- ✓ Jesus Lovingly Corrects Them
- ✓ Jesus Carefully Shows Them
- ✓ Jesus Willingly Stays With Them
- ✓ Jesus Purposefully Reveals Himself to Them
- ✓ Jesus Powerfully Impacts Them
  - Their Hearts are Consumed and Captured
  - Their Hearts Turn to Celebration
  - Their Hearts are Convinced & Convicted

### OUR 180° MOMENT

1. Today, are you feeling defeated, discouraged, maybe full of doubt, or even disappointed or disillusioned? Then bring it to Jesus. He invites you to come and bring it all to Him. He is big enough to handle all of it and today there is no doubt He is the answer you are looking for!
2. Maybe today you are ready for the **180° turn** in your life, there is no better time than now! You have become convinced He is the answer you have been looking for and you believe it's all true! It's as simple as ABC!  
**Admit** you are a sinner, **Believe** that Jesus is God's Son, **Confess** Him as Savior and **Commit** your life to Him as Lord for the rest of your life!!
3. Be willing to step over the line this morning and be obedient in what He is calling you to do. Maybe it is join this church family and honor Him by not attending but joining His family and being a part of bringing the good news to the world. Perhaps it is to refocus your life, for you have wandered away from the cross, and you need to come back home. Maybe it is to respond to God's call on your life to serve Him in full time Christian service. Whatever it is, do it!
4. Has Jesus truly consumed and captured your heart today or does the world have your heart? Believer, would you repent of those things and would allow Him to change you from the inside out? Do it today
5. Celebrate this week the fact that Christ is alive and that you can be alive too. There is nothing to fear, especially death and the grave! Not only that we can live this week in the same power that raised Jesus from the dead and face anything in our lives in His strength and power!!
6. Let us be compelled this week and so convinced and convicted of who He is and what He has done that we simply cannot help but tell someone else. Who in your world is waiting for you to share by your life and your words that Jesus has changed your forever and raised your life from the dead?

## U-TURN: 180° THE TURNED AROUND LIFE

### DISCOURAGEMENT & DISSAPOINTMENT

“The Unaware & Undeniable”

*Luke 24:13-35*

April 20, 2014 AM Service

This event plays out with the backdrop of resurrection of Jesus just happened that morning and yet these two guys are headed out of Jerusalem presumably on the way home leaving behind in Jerusalem all their hopes and dreams, a dead Messiah who some said was alive but they just simply couldn't put their minds around it. We can all relate to these guys, situation didn't turn out like we had hoped or planned, like we had envisioned or had laid out or even more things fell apart, disease, death, divorce, disaster, and all of sudden our lives are turned upside down and we are left wondering what happened and where is God in the middle of all this. We wonder if there is any hope and we will clearly see this morning that even in the middle, no especially in the middle of these circumstances, we along with these two disciples find hope and it was not in themselves or their circumstances, but instead it was found in His Story and when we discover or in some cases rediscover His story we find our story and that story is full of one word HOPE. That's what's Easter is all about. New Life, Resurrection, Another Opportunity, a Fresh Perspective and then our story gets wrapped up in His story and then becomes our story. Some of the greatest 180 moments in our lives arise out of the darkest nights, most difficult situations with no way out, the direst of circumstances with no answers... and then everything changes in one moment and we are forever changed – it's called Easter and we find it here on the Road to Emmaus, two guys walking down the road of life and Jesus shows up and their lives were never the same again. I pray that would be the same for each of us – He is here and willing to walk out of these doors with you into your life and circumstances and give you Hope, peace, joy, and meaning in life! The question is will you invite Him to stay today? I pray that you will!!

### Cleopas and His Friend Were...

✓ **Devastated** – it showed on their faces and how they were talking, their

body posture, Luke says they stood still and were looking sad. Their world had been turned upside down in just an instance, one minute everything was going great, Jesus being worshiped in Jerusalem on Sunday but by Thursday he had been arrested and headed towards the cross – He was murdered they thought. Everything was ruined and their lives were a mess. Ever been there before?

- ✓ **Discouraged & Disappointed** They were obviously disciples of Christ, they had followed Him and saw Him heal others, even raise the dead and now He was dead and now they decide to leave Jerusalem as if they are running away from their circumstances. Emmaus was 7 miles from Jerusalem, about a 2 hour walk. So deeply discouraged and disappointed that in their minds Jesus hadn't done what He said He would do or had done it that the way they wanted Him too. This isn't the way it was supposed to work out in our books. It seemed it was all over. Have you ever been disappointed with God, even deeply discouraged? It goes even deeper from there...
- ✓ **Doubted & Disillusioned** We really thought He was the one – He was the Messiah, He was a prophet mighty in deed and word in sight of all the people and God – yet they couldn't see the truth about what the Bible said about Jesus and why He had come – they thought he would free them from Rome (they only saw what they wanted to see – the conquering King parts) but instead he had come to free them from something much more – SIN, Death, Hell and the grave (they missed the parts that talked about the suffering servant and more)! Ever doubted God and what He was up to, even disillusioned to the point you wanted to walk away?
- ✓ **Defeated – Hopeless** It even goes to the end – they were defeated and really had just given up. So much so that they had lost all hope and they were in such a fog of defeat and hopelessness that they didn't recognize Him – now Scripture tell us they were prevented from recognizing Him – now we don't know if the Lord prevented them of simply their doubt, devastation, and disillusioned by their circumstances that Jesus was hard to see. Ever been there before? Boy I have! Even more, they couldn't recognize the truth about the resurrection from the two women nor from the angels or the other disciples who had seen it!

## Their 180° Moment

### ✓ Jesus Attentively Listens to Them Vs 13-24

He invites them to Share – Tell me what’s on your mind guys – what going on in your lives?...

Jesus approaches them and asks them about what are you talking about?

“And they stood still – stopped them in their tracks – looking sad.

Dude, are you kidding me, have you been hiding under a rock somewhere, I mean everyone in Jerusalem knows what just happened.

Jesus asks them what things? How funny! Yet, as always our Lord invites us to share our hearts with Him, even though He already knows the answer.

### ✓ Jesus Lovingly Corrects Them Vs 25-26

The trouble is not in your understanding really but in your hearts!

They were willing it seems to accept and admire a dead Savior, a great prophet who had been martyred, but they had great difficulty in

accepting a risen Lord. How true today! The longer Cleopas talked,

the more he indicted himself and his friend for their unbelief. What

more evidence could they want? Witnesses (including Apostles) had seen the tomb empty. Angels had announced that Jesus was alive.

Witnesses had seen Him alive and heard Him speak The proof was there!

### ✓ Jesus Carefully Shows Them Vs 27

How? By the Word of God Then walks them through the story of redemptive history. Perhaps Jesus started at Gen 3:15, the first

promise of the Redeemer, and traced that promise through the

Scriptures. He may have lingered at Gen 22, which tells of Abraham

placing his only beloved son on the altar. Surely He touched on

Passover, the levitical sacrifices, the tabernacle ceremonies, the Day of

Atonement, the serpent in the wilderness, the Suffering Servant in Isa

53, and the prophetic messages of Ps 22 and 69. *The key to*

*understanding the Bible is to see Jesus Christ on every page.* He did not

teach them only doctrine or prophecy; He taught "the things concerning

Himself' (Luke 24:27).

### ✓ Jesus Willingly Stays With Them Vs 28-29

Gives them a chance to invite Him to stay, He acts as if He is going

further. Jesus never forces Himself on us, He is only a invited guest! They asked Him to stay with them, they extend the invitation for Jesus Notice, they implored him, entreated him, begged Him please stay with us. He was going on and had they not asked Him to stay, He wouldn't have and they would have missed seeing the Lord. How often do we miss seeing Him? How many of us today have yet to invite Him in when He is standing right beside us or in front of us. Jesus never breaks down a locked door, but only when He is invited in does He come, and oh boy then does He come. He reveals who He is and all is love, and power, grace, and tender mercy.

✓ **Jesus Purposefully Reveals Himself to Them** Vs 30-32 by the

Sat down to break bread – have supper together and something about the way He prayed, the way he broke the bread as he had when He fed the 5000, they saw the wounds in his hands, don't know but suddenly they saw Him and recognized Him. It was Jesus!

✓ **Jesus Powerfully Impacts Them** Vs 32-35

▪ **Their Hearts are Consumed and Captured**

Some of you have a lot of Bible knowledge but you don't have a burning heart. Is your heart burning this morning, it is on fire with the Savior?

▪ **Their Hearts Turn to Celebration – Their Literal 180 Moment**

They can't contain it! – they don't wait they return to Jerusalem that very night. They had left Jerusalem as disbelieving the eyewitness accounts and they come back celebrating their eyewitness account!! They had a story to tell! The best evidence that we have understood the Bible and met the living Christ is that we have something exciting to share with others.

▪ **Their Hearts are Convinced & Convicted**

All doubts had been erased, they were now as we will see in future chapters of Acts, they were even willing to give their lives for Jesus. They went from doubting, scared people, to believers who had the passion of God burning inside of them, because Jesus' body had been stolen, because He was still in the tomb, because they made it all up. No way! Church, they from this point forward begin to turn the known world upside down with the gospel of Jesus Christ so that no

less than 300 years later, the whole Roman empire had been touched with the gospel. You see they were like Paul in his [2<sup>nd</sup> letter to Timothy, 1:7-12](#) I know it is true, and I have staked my life on it! Have you staked your life on it. Has the fact that Jesus Christ came and died and rose again so shaken you to the foundation of who you are that is changed forever?! For if we are truly convinced and truly convicted then we will not be the same anymore!

**What a difference it would make** in our church services if everybody who gathered came to tell about meeting the living Christ! If our services are "dead" it is probably because we are not really walking with and listening to the living Savior during the week! Hello!