



EASTER TO TRINITY SUNDAY

JOURNEY WITH US FROM EASTER TO TRINITY SUNDAY

5 April - 31 May 2026

WEEK 1 – 5 APRIL	Jesus Has Risen
WEEK 2 – 12 APRIL	Jesus Appears to His Disciples
WEEK 3 - 19 APRIL	On the road to Emmaus
WEEK 4 - 26 APRIL	The Good Shepherd and His sheep
WEEK 5 – 3 MAY	Jesus is the way to the Father
WEEK 6 – 10 MAY	Jesus promises the Holy Spirit
Ascension Day May 14, 2026	
WEEK 7 – 17 MAY	Jesus Prays for His Disciples
WEEK 8 – 24 MAY	Jesus appears to His Disciples
WEEK 9 – 31 MAY	The Great Commission



HOME GROUPS AND CLASSES GUIDE:

1. Open in Worship and Prayer: this is to invite God into the meeting. For example, you can light a candle, sing together, or use a YouTube Hymn or song.
2. Open your Bibles and read the Bible verses for this week (take turns?) see below.
3. Reflect on the Bible verses and the reflection written by a Minister or Lay Preacher.
4. Connect with each other and take the reflection deeper by answering the Questions.
5. Works out: What have we learned that we can apply in our lives in this session? Keep each other accountable for promises made or important steps taken. Pray for and over each other (after taking prayer requests).

WORSHIP SONG:

The Road to Emmaus – Jesus Our Cornerstone.

<https://music.youtube.com/watch?v=8lsEfrhbyCc&si=CEIBmAdkoPG3iek>

WEEK 3

SUNDAY - April 19

Bible Readings



Acts 2:14a, 36-41
 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
 I Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35

New International Version

On the Road to Emmaus

¹³ Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶ but they were kept from recognizing him.

¹⁷ He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸ One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have

happened there in these days?"¹⁹ "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people."²⁰ The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him;²¹ but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place.²² In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning²³ but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive.²⁴ Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."²⁵ He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken!²⁶ Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?"²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.²⁸ As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther.²⁹ But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them.³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight.³² They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"³³ They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together³⁴ and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon."³⁵ Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION:

Written by: Local Preacher – Khanyiso Njwabule

The eleven-kilometer walk from Jerusalem to Emmaus by the two disciples occurs on resurrection Sunday and from these two disciples we get a glimpse of the disappointment and hopelessness the disciples of Jesus were experiencing during that topsy-turvy resurrection Sunday. This sentiment of hopelessness is expressed distinctly in verse 20b of our text with this statement "We had hoped we was the one". Even today we sometimes do have those feelings of hopelessness when we look around us the food prices keep going up, unemployment remains high and those in offices of government are actively engaging in corrupt activities to self-enrich. However, in the midst of all the hopelessness the resurrected Jesus comes to walk with us, to shine His great light on our lives like he did with these two disciples. Jesus walks with these two disciples in their feelings of hopelessness with love and compassion, not condemning them for not seeing Him.

We often wonder why these two disciples couldn't see and recognize Jesus on this eleven-kilometer walk. The text tells us that "They were kept from recognizing him" in verse 16 but it does not say who kept them from recognizing Jesus. However, we do get a clue in verse 20 when the text says "We had hoped he was the one who was going to redeem Israel" and with this statement we get to understand that their own expectation of what they hoped and thought Jesus would do for them, was keeping them from recognizing Him irrespective of the distance and time they spent walking with Him. We too have our own expectations of what we expect Jesus would do for us and when it does not come to fruition, we become downcast, lose hope and are blinded to the active work of transformation that Jesus is doing in our lives. Yet through the blindness and hopelessness of the two disciples, the one who is in us and is our hope of glory (Colossians 1:27b NIV) continues by his love and mercy, to proclaim the good news of the Messiah as prophesied by Moses and the prophets. This is comforting to me because it means our Lord will walk the long distance with us in the periods of our blindness and hopelessness and not give up, as St. Paul states "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" (Phil 1:6 NIV).

Why did it take this long for the two disciples to see. One can view the walk by the two disciples to Emmaus as a conscious decision to walk away from their divine purpose due to their fears, unmet expectations and lost hope since Jesus had said to the women who went to empty tomb to tell the disciples to meet and see Him in Galilee "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me" Matthew 28:10 NIV. But Jesus who is Immanuel (i.e. God with us) walked with them until they saw and recognized Him. Three things happened on that resurrection Sunday that made the two disciples see and recognize Jesus:

- I. Interpretation of scripture empowered by the Holy Spirit – "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us" (verse 32b).
- II. Proclamation of good news salvation by Jesus – verses 25 to 26.
- III. Visible sign of invisible grace (sacrament) – Holy Communion (verse 30).

It is therefore not in vain when you regularly prayerfully engage in scriptures, attend small group/class meetings and Sunday services because our Lord is opening our eyes so that we may see and recognize Him more clearly with each passing day.

GROUP QUESTIONS

1. What expectations do you have of Jesus in this season of your life?
2. Have you had misconceptions of what Jesus should and can do for you? Please share at least one.
3. In your journey of following Jesus, have you had instances where you were downcast and lost hope?
4. How was the lost hope restored by God on the instance you shared in 3.

DAILY MEMORY VERSE AND PRAYER

MONDAY, April 20

1 Peter 1:25 *“But the word of the Lord endures forever.”*

Prayer: Lord, root my life in Your enduring Word that never fades.

TUESDAY, April 21

Proverbs 9:5 *“Come, eat my bread and drink the wine I have mixed.”*

Prayer: Father, nourish my soul with Your wisdom and truth today.

WEDNESDAY, April 22

John 21:12 *“Jesus said to them, ‘Come and have breakfast.’”*

Prayer: Risen Lord, draw me close to You and feed me with Your presence.

THURSDAY, April 23

Psalms 23:1 *“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.”*

Prayer: Shepherd of my soul, lead me and provide for all my needs.

FRIDAY, April 24

Exodus 3:17 *“I promise that I will bring you up out of your affliction...”*

Prayer: Faithful God, give me courage to follow You into the freedom You promise.

SATURDAY, April 25

Luke 15:7 *“There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents...”*

Prayer: Seeking Savior, thank You for pursuing me and rejoicing over my return.

FAMILY TIME

Scripture: Luke 24:13–35 (NIV) *On the Road to Emmaus*

Read the Scripture Together Read Luke 24:13–35 aloud.

(You can divide it into three parts: the walk, the conversation, and the meal.)

Setting the Scene

Two disciples were walking to Emmaus. They were: Sad, Confused, Disappointed

They had hoped Jesus was the One who would rescue Israel... But now He had died.

While they were walking and talking... **Jesus Himself came up and walked along with them.**

But they didn't recognize Him.

Big Truth for the Week: Sometimes Jesus is walking with us even when we don't realize it.

For Younger Children (3–9 years)

Simple Discussion Questions

- Why were the disciples sad?
- Who started walking with them?
- Did they know it was Jesus at first?
- When did they finally recognize Him?

Simple Teaching

They recognized Jesus when:

- He explained the Scriptures.
- He broke the bread.

Sometimes we notice Jesus when:

- We read the Bible.
- We pray.
- We worship.
- We show kindness.

Activity Idea

Go for a short “Emmaus walk” together (even just around the house or garden).

Ask: “Jesus, help us see You walking with us.”

For Teens (10+ years)

Deeper Discussion Questions

- Why do you think God prevented them from recognizing Jesus at first?
- What does this story teach us about disappointment and unmet expectations?
- The disciples said, “We had hoped...” What hopes have you had that didn’t turn out as expected?
- Why do you think their hearts were “burning” while Jesus explained Scripture?
- What role does Scripture play in recognizing Jesus today?

Reflect Together

Notice the pattern in this story:

1. They were walking away from Jerusalem (away from hope).
2. Jesus came near.
3. Jesus opened the Scriptures.
4. Their eyes were opened in the breaking of bread.
5. They ran back to share the news.

Resurrection turns:

- Disappointment into understanding.
- Confusion into clarity.
- Retreat into mission.

Connecting to the Easter Season

This week deepens the resurrection story:

Easter – The Tomb Is Empty Jesus is alive.

Week 2 – Peace in Fear Jesus brings peace to the disciples.

Week 3 – Presence in Disappointment Jesus walks with us in confusion and opens our eyes.

This prepares us for:

- **Ascension** — understanding who Jesus truly is.
- **Pentecost** — hearts burning with the Spirit’s fire.
- **Trinity Sunday** — seeing how Father, Son, and Spirit work together in salvation.

What This Means for Us

Sometimes we say:

- “I thought God would fix this.”
- “I hoped it would turn out differently.”
- “I don’t understand what God is doing.”

The Emmaus story reminds us:

- Jesus is closer than we think.
- God’s plan is bigger than our expectations.
- Understanding often comes while we walk, not before.

Family Application

Ask each family member:

- Where have I said, “I had hoped...”?
- Do I need to invite Jesus into a disappointment?
- How can I slow down this week to notice Him?

Finish this sentence together: “Jesus, open my eyes to see You in _____.”

Closing Prayer

“Risen Jesus, Sometimes we are disappointed or confused.

Thank You for walking with us even when we do not see You.

Open our eyes through Your Word.

Make our hearts burn with love for You.

Help us run and share the good news.

Amen.”