

Week 5: Luke 24.13-35

Icebreaker question: Where is your “road to Emmaus” -- the place in your life where Jesus has surprised you recently?

This week’s message keyed on Hebrews 11.6, “And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.” It said specifically that we must nurture our faith by believing so that we can understand.

Read Luke 7.18-35

1. John the Baptist is in prison and wonders if Jesus “...is the one to come, or should we expect someone else.” Look up Mark 6.17-18 to see why John is in jail. Is John experiencing good doubt or deadly doubt? Explain your answer.
2. Notice Jesus answer to John’s question in verses 21-22. What did Jesus say? What did he do? Now compare Jesus actions with Isaiah 61.1-2 and Luke 4.16-19. What does Jesus answer actually mean? How do you think John understood it? (*He is being challenged to believe to understand.*)
3. In verse 23 Jesus says, “Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.” How is it possible to “stumble on account of Jesus?” Why would he say that on this particular occasion? Do you think stumbling has anything to do with deadly doubt?
4. After John’s messengers leave Jesus speaks highly of John, heaping praise on him (verses 24-28). Does it strike you as unusual that Jesus says this after they leave? Does that help you understand anything about God’s attitude toward you?