



Emmaus Road Study
Week 2 – Spirit and Scripture

*Heavenly Father, we thank you for the opportunity to gather here tonight in your holy Name.
We ask your blessing upon our Emmaus Group and upon the time we will spend together.
Draw us closer to You through each other. Give us the ability to search our own
hearts and know ourselves ever more, so we might better know You.*

Sacred Scripture (CCC 131) “And such is the force and power of the word of God that it can serve the Church as her support and vigor, and the children of the Church as strength for their faith, food for the soul and a pure and lasting fount of spiritual life. Hence access to Sacred Scripture ought to be open wide to the Christian faithful.”

Read Luke 24: 18-27 out loud together.

Read the passage again silence. Take a moment to place yourself in the scene.

Discuss: What was the most vivid image or phrase that resonated with you in this passage?

Discuss: What type of emotions were the disciples experiencing? What emotions did you experience in your meditations?

“In the disciples' conversation with the unknown traveler the expression that the evangelist Luke puts in one of their mouths is striking: “We were hoping...” (24:21). This past tense verb says everything: We believed, we followed, we hoped ..., but now it is all over. Even Jesus of Nazareth, who had shown himself to be a powerful prophet in deeds and words, failed, and we are disappointed.”

Pope Benedict XVI, April 6, 2008

Discuss: What has been your response to disappointments in life?

Reread Luke 24: 30-32.

Discuss: How does Jesus breaking open Scripture inspire or change the two disciples?

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

- 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Discuss: Last session, we talked about our own faith journeys. Where does Scripture fit into your faith journey?

“Were not our hearts burning within us, while he spoke to us on the way?” said those happy pilgrims of Emmaus, speaking of the flames of love with which they were touched by the word of faith. But if divine truths be so sweet, when proposed in the obscure light of faith, O God, what shall they be when we shall contemplate them in the light of the noonday of glory!”

St. Francis de Sales, *Treatise on the Love of God Chapter IX*

Discuss: How do you approach Scripture – with confidence, fear, reverence, timidity, awkwardly, etc? Are there reasons that you feel unqualified or disqualified to read the Bible?

“Without revealing to them any new detail about himself, Jesus shows them the form, the overarching design, the meaning—and through this process they begin to “get” him: their hearts are burning within them. This is the second great evangelical lesson. The successful evangelist uses the Scriptures in order to disclose the divine patterns and ultimately the Pattern who is made flesh in Jesus.”

Bishop Barron, *Walk with Sinners, Open the Book, Break the Bread*

Discuss: Responding to the quote by Bishop Barron, what can you say about the importance of Scripture? Can you think of a time when Scripture truly spoke to you?

“Stay with us, Lord, for it is almost evening” (cf. Lk 24:29). This was the insistent invitation that the two disciples journeying to Emmaus on the evening of the day of the resurrection addressed to the Wayfarer who had accompanied them on their journey. Weighed down with sadness, they never imagined that this stranger was none other than their Master, risen from the dead. Yet they felt their hearts burning within them (cf. v. 32) as he spoke to them and “explained” the Scriptures. The light of the Word unlocked the hardness of their hearts and “opened their eyes” (cf. v. 31). Amid the shadows of the passing day and the darkness that clouded their spirit, the Wayfarer brought a ray of light which rekindled their hope and led their hearts to yearn for the fullness of light.”

John Paul II, *Mane Nobiscum Domine*

Discuss: After hearing Jesus interpret the Scriptures to them, the disciples implored, “Stay with us, Lord.” How do you plan to incorporate Scripture in to your daily life- continually inviting Jesus to remain with you?

