

THE JOURNEY

Bible Reading Schedule

May 3	1 Kings 6, 7	Luke 23:27-38
May 4	1 Kings 8, 9	Luke 23:39-56
May 5	1 Kings 10, 11	Luke 24:1-35
May 6	1 Kings 12, 13	Luke 24:36-53
May 7	1 Kings 14, 15	John 1:1-28
May 8	1 Kings 16, 17, 18	John 1:29-51
May 9	1 Kings 19, 20	John 2

Emmaus [Luke 24:13-35]

What caused these men to leave Jerusalem? Why do people leave the church?

- Fear – they feared for their lives
- Disillusionment – they lost their political liberator
- Overload – Jesus’ death and suffering was more than they could take
- Loneliness – they wanted to get back home and predictability.
- Despair – they lost hope along with their spiritual leader

Why didn’t they recognize Jesus when he joined them?

- Their minds were filled with other thoughts
- They were in the darkness of depression
- Jesus’ resurrection body was different than they expected.
- Their eyes were focused on the past

What does the resurrected Jesus need to change in your life?

- spiritual vision
- unbelief to faith
- discouragement
- loneliness
- sorrow to joy
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What helps you recognize Jesus alongside you when you are down?

- time alone with God
- talk with someone who cares
- Reading the Bible
- taking Communion
- focusing on Worship
- serving others

How would you describe your “walk” with Christ right now?

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First United Methodist Church

NEW BEGINNINGS

We serve a Big God who delights in doing Big Things

▶ How BIG is your **Easter** Experience?

Easter proclaims that life is essentially spiritual and timeless.

“When I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, for I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!” 1 Cor. 9:16

▶ How Big is your **Compassion**?

Compassion involves receiving as much as offering it to others.

“Don't you think I should be concerned about that big city?” Jonah 4:11

▶ How Big is your **Church**?

“After I have completed this task and have made sure that they have received this fruit, I will go to Spain and visit you on the way.” Rms 15:28

What can I do ~ Where I am ~ with What I have?

(1) **Pray** – the greatest battle is with unseen forces

Our hope is that [God] will continue to deliver us, as you help us by your prayers.
2 Cor. 1:10-11

(2) **Learn** – When the student is ready, the master appears.

I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Jn 13:15

Ask: What do I have? **Study:** What should I do? **Grow:** Where should I go?

(3) **Share** – get involved, exercise, take a chance

“His faith was made complete by what he did.” James 2:22

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Acts 1:1-11 (NCV)

The first book I wrote was about everything Jesus began to do and teach² until the day he was taken up into heaven. Before this, with the help of the Holy Spirit, Jesus told the apostles he had chosen what they should do.³ After his death, he showed himself to them and proved in many ways that he was alive. The apostles saw Jesus during the forty days after he was raised from the dead, and he spoke to them about the kingdom of God.⁴ Once when he was eating with them, he told them not to leave Jerusalem. He said, "Wait here to receive the promise from the Father which I told you about."⁵ John baptized people with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶ When the apostles were all together, they asked Jesus, "Lord, are you now going to give the kingdom back to Israel?"

⁷ Jesus said to them, "The Father is the only One who has the authority to decide dates and times. These things are not for you to know."⁸ But when the Holy Spirit comes to you, you will receive power. You will be my witnesses—in Jerusalem, in all of Judea, in Samaria, and in every part of the world."

⁹ After he said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud hid him from their sight.¹⁰ As he was going, they were looking into the sky. Suddenly, two men wearing white clothes stood beside them.¹¹ They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus, whom you saw taken up from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you saw him go."

"Prayer is the mighty engine that is to move the missionary work." -- A.B. Simpson

"The history of missions is the history of answered prayer."

-- Samuel Zwemer