LZ

STORY 7/17/03

Emmaus Disciples - Mark 16:12, 13; Luke 24:13-35

TEACHER PRAYER

Lord, Abide with us as You stayed and taught the Emmaus disciples. Help us to use Your Word to teach those You have given unto us to teach in our Sunday School class. Let us never forget Your sacrifice for our sins, nor Your return on the third day as our victorious, living Redeemer. Bless our preparations and the teaching of Your Easter history that we may give a message to share with those who do not yet know You as their living Savior. Amen.

VOCABULARY

Restrained - The Emmaus disciples were prevented from recognizing Jesus. Jesus wished to open their spiritual eyes by teaching from His Word.

Constrained - The disciples invited, begged, urged Jesus to stay.

OUTER AIM

Jesus gladdened the hearts of two disciples by telling them about their risen Savior.

INNER AIM

God's Word makes us certain that Jesus is our risen Savior.

BACKGROUND

(Rupprecht Bible History References Vol. 2, pp. 435-441)

We have heard how Jesus appeared to Mary and the other women early on Easter morning. Today we hear that Jesus appeared to two other disciples going it Emmaus.. They were sad as they talked of the events that had happened in Jerusalem. Jesus will gladden their hearts by His message from God's Word and by His showing Himself alive to them.

- The two disciples were Cleopas and an unnamed disciple, who were not members of the twelve.
- ► It was now early afternoon on that first Easter Sunday.
- ► The town of Emmaus was six or seven miles from Jerusalem.
- ▶ We can see and hear the despair of the two disciples. They are confused because their faith is floundering. The words of the women and the news of Peter and John's visit to the empty tomb seemed to these two men like nonsense. (V. 11)
- Jesus, as only He can do, opened the Scriptures to these men. Beginning from the books of Moses and continuing through the prophets Jesus taught them about the Savior.
- At the meal the Lord acted as host, not guest, and when their eyes of faith were opened the Lord also opened their physical eyes to see their Savior.
- With ecstatic joy they ran back to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples the great news. There they heard the good news that Jesus had also appeared to Peter sometime that day.
- ► The Lord is risen!

STUDENT PRAYER

Lower: Dear Father in Heaven.

Abide with us as You stayed with the Emmaus disciples. Help us listen to, learn and live Your Word. Help me also to tell others about the Savior who died and rose again to pay for the sins of the world. Please keep our faith strong. In Jesus' name we ask. Amen.

Upper: Lord Jesus, I thank You that You died for my sins and rose again with the victory over death. In You I have life! Thank You for giving me parents, pastors and teachers to teach me Your Word. Make me a faithful witness of this Good News to all people. Amen.

PRESENTATION

Tell the story with the same emotion and excitement as if you were there. Tell the story in your words, but be faithful to the account that God wrote through Luke and referred to in Mark.

APPLICATIONS

- 1. How hopeless, helpless, joyless we would be if Jesus had not risen from the dead! (1 Corinthians 15:17) However, we can be assured by God's Word that our faith is not in vain. Christ is alive! All we need to do is turn to the Word of God for proof. God's Word makes us certain that Jesus is our risen Savior. (John 5:39; Romans 10:17)
- 2. When our parents, teachers, and pastors teach us the Word of God it is like Jesus speaking to us Himself, just like He did to the disciples in our lesson. That is why we should hear His Word in church, in school, and at home. We need to know that Jesus is our Savior. He suffered, died, and rose again to pay for all of our sins and to conquer death and hell.
- 3. The Old Testament is filled with Prophecies concerning the Messiah. They are all fulfilled in Jesus. May we learn them for our strengthening and comfort.
- 4. This lesson shows us the ecstatic joy of the disciples. We too can have this same joy as we learn of our Savior.

PASSAGES

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

Lower

Romans 10:17 - "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

John 5:39 - "You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me." (You may want to take only the first part for a memory verse.)

TLH Hymn #53, stanzas 1 & 4

Middle any of the above and...

Matthew 16:16 - "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

TLH Hymn# 552, stanzas 1, 3, 8

Upper any of the above and...

1 Corinthians 12:3 - "No one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit."

TLH Hymn# 552, stanzas 1, 3, 6, 8