

## **Sermon Notes**

Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2026

*40 Days: Ordinary Means of Grace*

-Luke 24.13-35-

**Theme:** The risen Christ is known through ordinary means of grace. When we come to the whole Word of God with honest hearts, it tears down our idols and rebuilds our hope.

### **The Road Away** (Luke 24.13-14)

- People walk away from faith for real reasons: unanswered prayer, moral failure, doubt, church wounds
- These disciples were walking away because Jesus didn't meet their expectations

### **The Idol We Call Jesus** (Luke 24.19-21)

- An idol is a version of God shaped by our desires and expectations
- Mary, Thomas, and the Emmaus disciples all wanted a Jesus they could physically verify
- A Jesus you can fully contain is not Jesus

### **Present Before Perceived** (Luke 24.15-16)

- Jesus drew near before they recognized Him
- Prayer is speaking to a Jesus who is already on the road with you, already listening

### **Prayer Is Processing** (Luke 24.17-27)

- Jesus let them empty themselves before He spoke
- Grief and confusion poured out in His presence is a form of prayer

### **The Word That Burns** (Luke 24.27, 32)

- Jesus opened the whole Scripture, not selected verses
- The Word corrects before it comforts; it tears down idols before rebuilding hope
- Cherry picking Scripture produces a shallow faith and a crafted Jesus

### **Until the Table** (Luke 24.30-31; Acts 2.42)

- Eyes opened at the breaking of bread, Luke 22.19 language intentional
- Prayer, Word, and Table are the ordinary means of grace
- The early church organized around exactly these means

### **Reflection Questions**

- When did you last read through an entire book of the Bible from beginning to end? What kept you from it?
- Where have you been feeding on disappointment rather than the whole counsel of God?