

The Facilitator

Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

4/28/19

Text: Luke 24:13-32

Title: Resurrection - A New Understanding

Teacher: Tim Rice

Surrender through Prayer:

Surrender through prayers for Illumination and Transformation, asking that Jesus would meet with you in this time.

Engage with the Sermon

Read the passage together

In his sermon, Tim walked us through the story of the disciples on “The Road to Emmaus”. As Tim said, the disciples were sad and did not understand what they had just witnessed: their messiah and savior suffering and dying at the hands of their enemies, and the stories the women told of finding an empty tomb and of Jesus rising again from the dead. They couldn’t understand because they had no paradigm for a “suffering savior.” And yet Jesus walked the road with them, opened the scriptures to them and revealed to them how all of God’s word had been pointing to Him; to His dying and rising again. Like we do so often in our lives, rather than seeing their reality through the lens of God’s word, the disciples had used their experiences as a lens through which to understand God and the world they live in. Similarly, we have no paradigm for goodness coming out of suffering. Only once we allow ourselves to take the low place and let God’s word reveal who He is and who we are (rather than the other way around), will our hearts “burn within us” and will we truly see everything through the lens and hope of the gospel.

Reflection Questions:

1. *Tim said, like a jeweler trying to look at a lens through a diamond, we try to make sense of God and our reality by looking at them through our experiences rather than looking at our lives through God and His word.*
 - **How have your experiences impacted your understanding of God?**
 - **How does the lens of God’s word help you make sense of your reality?**
 - **Why do we so easily get the order mixed up?**
2. *Tim told the story of his young daughter pointing out a rainbow that he couldn’t see until he got down to her level and saw it from her perspective. From a certain perspective we can’t see anything, but from the low, humble place, God can reveal everything.*
 - **Why is it so hard to understand God through the lens of struggle and suffering?**
 - **How has the “low place” (of suffering or humility), shown you who God is in ways you could never have known otherwise?**
3. *When we truly understand the Gospel, that everything in scripture points to Christ, His suffering and rising again on our behalf, it changes everything.*
 - **Where do you currently need the hope of the gospel applied to your life?**

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WORSHIP AND PRAYER:

A.C.T.S.

(Spend time in prayer and worship as you consider Adoring God the Father, Confessing your sin and weakness, giving thanks to Jesus, and asking Holy Spirit to transform you. Use this as a time to talk to God about what's been revealed in your heart from this sermon.)

1. ADORATION *(The Father)*

Adore and Worship God for His attributes and actions

2. CONFESSION *(Me)*

Spend time Confessing sin and ways in which you are finite and limited

3. THANKSGIVING *(Jesus)*

Give thanks to Jesus for his salvation (past, present, future)

4. SUPPLICATION *(Holy Spirit)*

Ask Holy Spirit to transform you in specific ways

5. Prepare for Gospel Community *(My Neighbor)*

Pray for those who are on your heart, that God would use you to impact them with His gospel message.

Prayer Items

- 1. Worship the LORD for His all-surpassing power! Praise and adore Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that He is mightier than our sin, death and hell.*
- 2. In what ways do you live with a lens of your experience (whether in fear or pride) interpreting all that you believe? Confess your pride and unbelief to Jesus, asking Him to wash you and give you His perspective.*
- 3. Give thanks to Jesus for His initiative to move toward us in our unbelief! Thank Him for graciously revealing His Word to us so that we could know Him and trust His work to conquer sin, death, Satan and hell!*
- 4. Who do you know that is discouraged and hopeless? Ask the Lord to overcome the deadness of their soul and give them a sense of His living, all-powerful Presence!*
- 5. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you insight into where you functionally live as if Jesus was neither punished in your place nor raised in victory. Ask Him to change your heart and mind and to give you His joy.*