



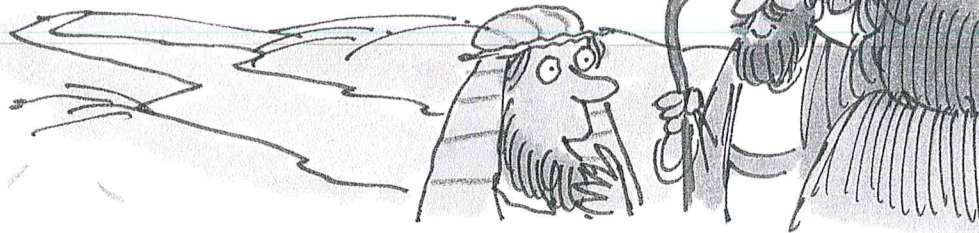
# THE GOOD NEWS

WEEKLY  
Third Sunday of Easter (A)  
John 20:19-31 • April 26, 2020

## GOSPEL THEME

Even now, Jesus is with us.

# Along the Road to EMMAUS



All of Jerusalem talked about Jesus' strange appearances after his death on the cross. One day two of the disciples met a stranger as they walked the seven-mile stretch of road that goes from Jerusalem to Emmaus. Here's the story they told the other disciples about the incident.

"We were walking along, talking about Jesus" said one disciple. "It was getting dark. Suddenly a man was walking along beside us. We have no idea where he came from or how long he had been there."

The second disciple said: "He asked us what we were talking about. We were surprised he didn't know. Everyone in Jerusalem was talking about Jesus."

After they told the stranger that they were discussing Jesus, the stranger started explaining the Scriptures to them. He told them how the Scriptures were really all about Jesus.

"It was beautiful just to listen to him," both disciples agreed.

The stranger walked all the way to Emmaus with them. When they arrived, the disciples didn't want him to stop talking, so they invited him to eat with them.

"He agreed to stay awhile," said one disciple. "As soon as he broke the bread, we both recognized him. It was Jesus!"

"Yes! It was the oddest thing," said the other disciple. "Then he just vanished into thin air."

"Really? What did you do then?" they were asked.

"We ran right back here to Jerusalem to tell you!"

"But it's seven miles! Do you mean to tell me you ran seven miles in the dark? That's amazing!"

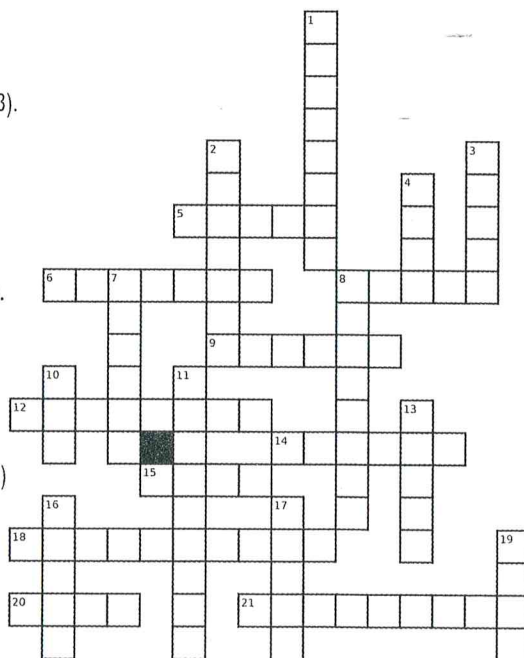
"Perhaps. But then we had such amazing news, and we couldn't wait to share it!"

## SCRIPTURE CROSSWORD

To solve this crossword, you will need to use your Bible. Read Luke 24:13-35. Then see if you can find the answers to the following clues (the numbers in parentheses give you a hint).

### Across:

5. A vision of angels declared he was \_\_\_\_\_ (23).
6. One of them was named \_\_\_\_\_ (18).
8. He broke the \_\_\_\_\_ (30).
9. They found the \_\_\_\_\_ assembled (33).
12. They got up and \_\_\_\_\_ to Jerusalem. (33).
14. The women \_\_\_\_\_ to find his body (23).
15. The women did not find his \_\_\_\_\_ (23).
18. Their eyes were opened and they \_\_\_\_\_ him (31).
20. So he went in to \_\_\_\_\_ with them (29).
21. They were going to Emmaus from \_\_\_\_\_ (13)



### Down:

1. He \_\_\_\_\_ from their sight (31).
2. Emmaus was a \_\_\_\_\_ (28).
3. The disciples \_\_\_\_\_ it to be as the woman said (24).
4. The Lord has been raised. It is \_\_\_\_\_ (34).
7. The disciples were on the road to \_\_\_\_\_ (13).
8. He took the bread and said the \_\_\_\_\_ (30).
10. They did not \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus at the tomb (24).
11. The angels \_\_\_\_\_ that Jesus was alive (23).
13. \_\_\_\_\_ approached and began to walk with them (15).
16. The chief priests and rulers handed Jesus over to a sentence of \_\_\_\_\_ (20).
17. Emmaus is \_\_\_\_\_ miles from Jerusalem (13).
19. Some of the disciples went to the \_\_\_\_\_ (24).



# SHARING the GOOD NEWS

Activity for Class  
or Family



## HOW MUCH WOULD YOU DO?

The two disciples on the road to Emmaus were so happy to have seen Jesus that they traveled seven miles on a dark and dangerous road to share the news. How far would you go to let others know that Jesus lives in your life? Would you go as far as the children in the following stories?



**In** today's gospel story, the disciples who were on their way to Emmaus did not recognize Jesus until the breaking of the bread. How often do we fail to recognize Jesus in others? Perhaps it takes a special way of looking. Here are some ideas for the class or family to discuss this week.

- 1** Remember how Jesus fed the five thousand with a few loaves and fish? Think of the neighbor who is always first to bring in a casserole or pie when someone is sick. Do you see Jesus there?
- 2** Remember how Jesus helped the blind to see and the deaf to hear? Think about someone you know or have read about who spends time working to help someone with a disability. Do you see Jesus there?
- 3** Remember when Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me"? Think about a friend or

neighbor who always has time to spend with children. Do you see Jesus there?

- 4** Remember how Jesus raised Lazarus from the grave? Think about the people who are always there to cheer you when you feel sad or to help you when you are in trouble. Do you see Jesus there?
- 5** Remember how Jesus told Martha that Mary had chosen the "better part" because she liked to sit and listen to him? Think about yourself and your prayer time. Do you see Jesus there?

It isn't hard to recognize Jesus as he lives in your life every day. All it takes is to really know him and how his love works through you and others.



Susan Walker recently went out of her way to let her classmates know that Jesus lives in her life. While on the playground, she heard some children making fun of a small girl because she was dressed poorly. The small girl was crying.

Then Susan told the children that Jesus loves the little girl, and whatever they do to that child, they are also doing to him. She said they were just like the soldiers who whipped Jesus and laughed at him and put the crown of thorns on his head.

After a while, the children began listening to Susan. One of the boys told the little girl he was sorry and he promised not to tease her anymore.



Richard Newmes recently went out of his way to let others know that Jesus lives in his heart. Richard pitches for the Crusaders, this year's championship baseball team from Saint Joseph's School. The Crusaders were honored at the state capital. The boys had a lot of fun on the three-hour bus ride to the capital.

The banquet was a grand affair with teams from schools all across the state receiving trophies. For dinner there were steaks and baked potatoes and green beans. It all looked so good and the boys were very hungry after their long ride. They sat down and started eating that delicious meal right away.

Then Richard spoke up: "Wait. Don't start eating yet. We haven't said grace."

"Come on, Newmes," the other boys said. "It'll look stupid. Do you want to make a fool out of yourself in front of all these other guys?"

"We're from Saint Joseph's," Richard reminded them. "Let's show them we are proud to be Catholics."

So Richard led the prayers and the rest of the Crusaders followed him, making the Sign of the Cross when they were through.

Sometimes it takes courage to let others know about your love for Jesus, but like the disciples in today's gospel story, you should be proud that Jesus lives in your life — so proud that you just can't wait to let your faith show.



# Family Page

Jesus promised that he would be with us always — and he is. It takes a little practice, but your family can learn to recognize him in the people and things around you. Here are some ideas.



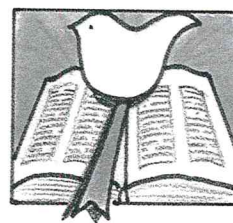
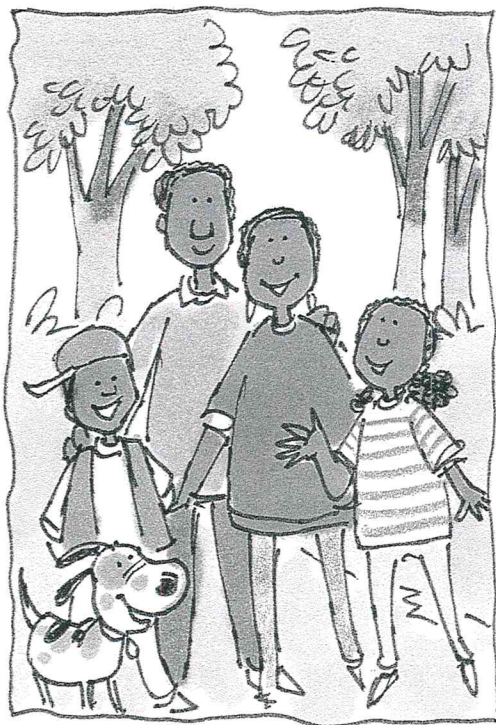
**1** Take a “God walk” together around your neighborhood. Select special places to walk where God’s gifts are most apparent: the playground, a nearby park or zoo, your own street, a country lane, or a woodland trail.

**2** As you walk, see how many signs of God’s love you can find. Try to remember them for the next part of the project.

**3** Have each member of the family make a small booklet by folding several sheets of paper in half. On the cover of the booklets, write I MET JESUS TODAY. On each of the inside pages, write the name of someone who represents Jesus’ love in your life. List on that person’s page all the things he or she does that makes you think of Jesus.

**4** Save your “Jesus Books” to look at whenever you forget that Jesus’ love can be seen through the love of others.

Answer to “What do you see here?” in next week’s Explaining God’s Word.

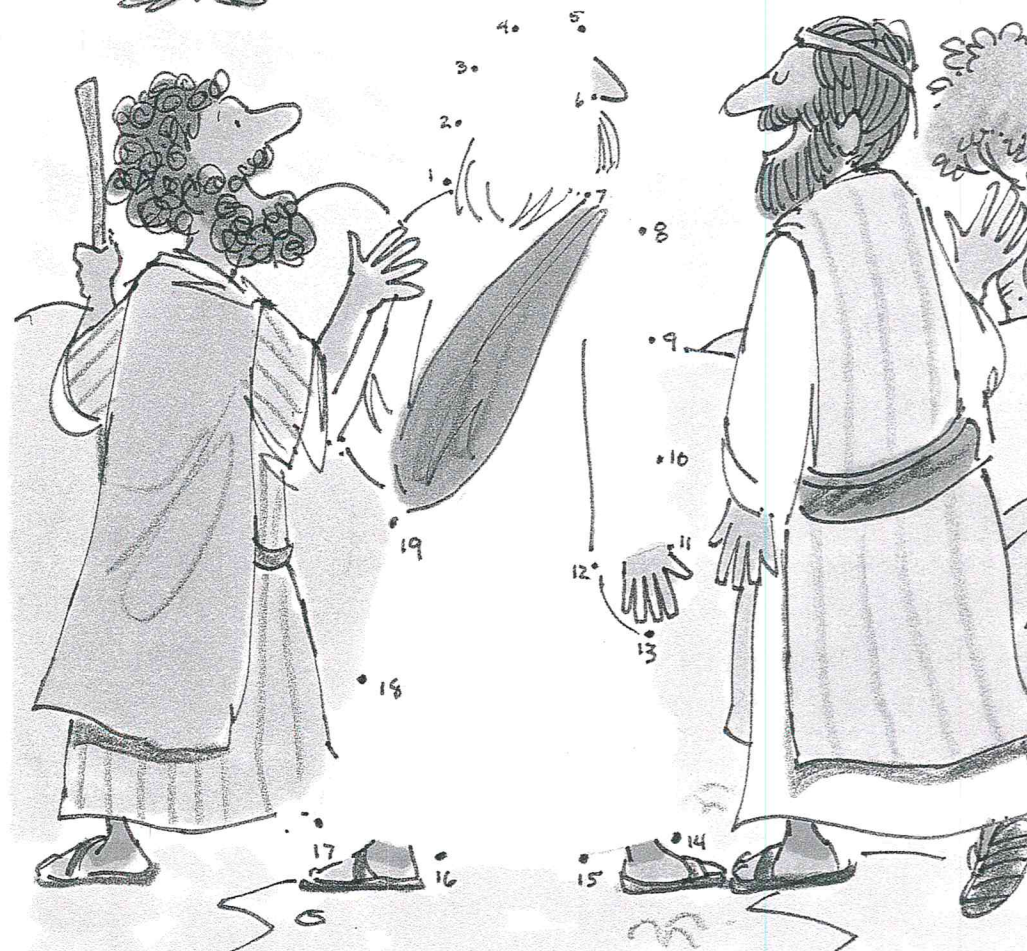


# explaining GOD’S WORD

Third Sunday of Easter (A) • Luke 24:13–35 • April 26, 2020



## Do You Recognize This Man?





# "Where Is Jesus Now?"

Jesus rose on Easter to be with you forevermore. But do you ever wonder, when things are going wrong: "Where is Jesus now?"

This week's gospel story tells about two men who wondered the same thing: "Where is Jesus now?"

After he died on the cross and rose again from the dead, Jesus was very close to his friends, even when they didn't know it.

When two of his friends were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus, they talked together about Jesus, whom they loved very much. "Where is Jesus now?" they wondered.

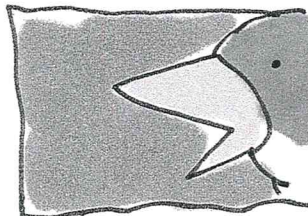
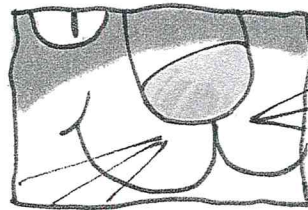
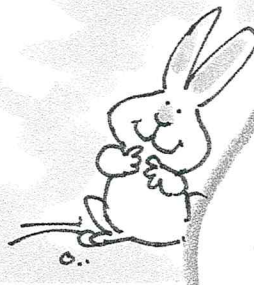
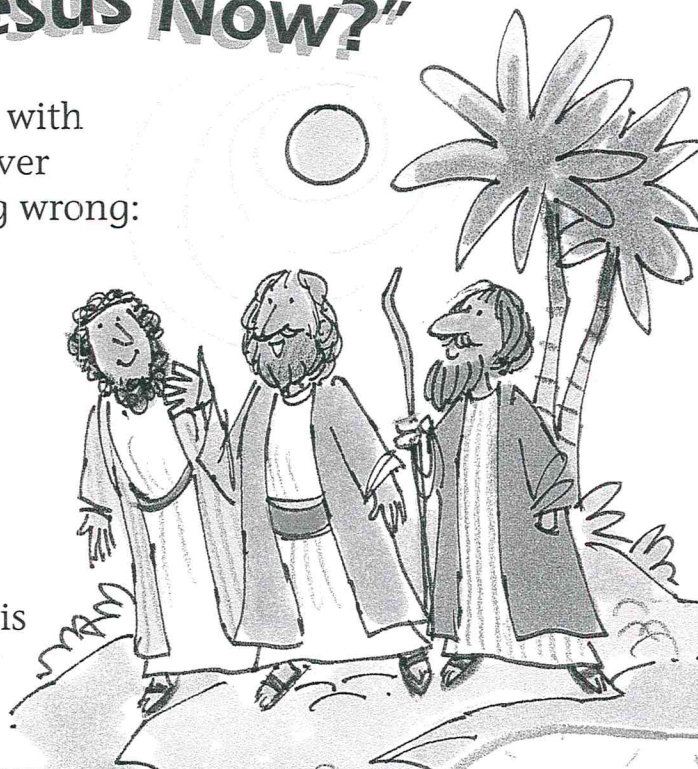
A stranger fell in step with them, "What are you talking about?" he asked. "We are speaking of Jesus," they said. "He came in love but died on the cross."

Then the stranger began to tell them stories from the Bible. Before they knew it, they were in Emmaus.

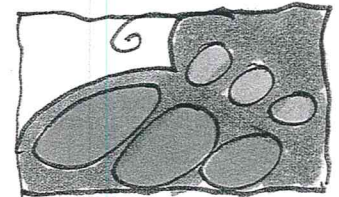
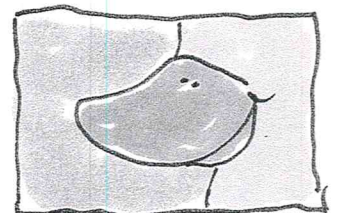
"Come eat with us," they asked him. When they sat down to eat, they knew — this was no stranger at all. It was Jesus, whom they loved. Then they looked again — and he was gone.

"We should have known," they said, for he explained the Bible just as Jesus had always done. They went right back to Jerusalem to tell the others JESUS is truly alive!

So now you know the answer, Jesus is with you always.



**WHAT  
DO YOU  
SEE  
HERE?**



The men on the road to Emmaus saw Jesus, but they didn't recognize him. Do you know the difference between seeing and recognizing? Here are four pictures of things that help you to recognize God's love in your life. I know you can see them, but can you recognize them? The answers will be in next week's issue.