



Cleopas and friend

WEEK 2 Luke 24:13-35



Tear Test

The mechanics of this game is very simple. The first one to shed tears that will roll down their face is the winner. Game starts!

How did you manage to shed tears? Your strategy might be you didn't blink for a long time. Or you went to the extent of slicing an onion for you to tear up. Or maybe you thought about something that happened to you that made you sad.

After the crucifixion of Jesus, the news spread that the Messiah, their only hope, was dead. This news brought sadness in their hearts. In the text that we'll read, two disciples were sulking in this sad news they heard and in their sadness, they didn't recognize the hope in their midst.



Luke 24: 13-35

13 That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, 14 and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. 15 While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. 16 But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. 18 Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" 19 And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20 and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. 21 But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. 22 Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, 23 and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. 24 Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." 25 And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

28 So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, 29 but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. 30 When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed it and broke it and gave it to them. 31 And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. 32 They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?"

33 And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, 34 saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" 35 Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The followers of Jsus were trying to make sense of what had happened. They thought Jesus was the Messiah who would free them from the Romans. But then He died, and now his body had disappeared. But Jesus met them on the road and after spending time with Him, they recognized Him! They were filled with hope because Jesus is alive!

Jesus did not come just to liberate Israel from the Romans. Jesus came to free all of us from the biggest bondage of all - sin! While His followers only saw their condition, God saw the condition of all mankind. And because He is risen, we can put our hope in Him and trust that God is working even if we don't see it.



Parent to Kid/s:

2-6 years old

- What makes you sad?

7-12 years old

- How do you feel when you do not get what you prayed for?

Kid/s to Parent:

- Has God ever answered your prayer in a different way from what you asked for? What did you do?

Many times we do not see how God is moving. We pray for one thing, earnestly hoping that God would answer it the way we want. But God answers it a different way. And sometimes we feel sad with His answer or we don't feel satisfied. But know that God sees, thinks and does things better than we do. He proved that when He sent Jesus to die for our sins. And because we know that Jesus rose from the dead, we can trust that God is working on our behalf no matter how he answers our prayers.



Dear Jesus, thank You because of what happened on the cross we can be sure that we can trust You in all circumstances. We pray that we will not easily get sad and doubt when things don't go our way. Help us to be in faith even if we don't understand what is happening in and around us. We pray in Your name, Jesus... Amen.



This particular account from the Bible is very interesting. While it is a significant event because it was one of the eye witness accounts that prove that Jesus did indeed rise from the dead, only one of the two followers, Cleopas, was actually named. The other follower has remained nameless.

When reading this passage, we normally assume that both followers were male. But Bible scholars have speculated otherwise. Many believed it to be Cleopas' wife, Mary. Cleopas was believed to be the brother of Joseph, the earthly father of Jesus. Cleopas and Mary lived in Emmaus and this adds credence to the idea that it may have been Mary, Cleopas' wife. Other conjecture lead to Simon, Cleopas' son and it might have been him who shared the story with Luke, hence it explains why it is only found in the book of Luke.

But regardless of his or her identity, the fact is Jesus appeared to them. This is what we focus on in this story!

Sources:

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