

MODGNIEK

Week 6 Discussion Guide



Icebreaker

What is something you looked forward to with high expectations, only for it to turn out completely different than you imagined? (i.e. vacation with bad weather, online purchase gone wrong)

Read

Luke 24:13-34 (Optional: Have your group read the passage in two different versions. Then have the group retell the passage in their own words.)

Discuss

The disciples on the road to Emmaus had envisioned a powerful earthly deliverer, but instead, their King died on a cross. When life doesn't align with our plans, our expectations can stall, turning our hope into past-tense disappointment: "We had hoped...". When we lose hope, we easily slip into cynicism or become so consumed by our dark circumstances that we miss Jesus walking right beside us in the middle of our grief.

- **When have you experienced a season where your expectations fell apart and you found yourself feeling, "I had hoped..."?**
- **Why is it so easy to miss God's presence or movement when we are going through disappointment or doubt?**
- **What would change about your prayer life if you really believed God wanted you to come to Him exactly as you are?**

Jesus never forces His way into our lives or circumstances. He knocks and waits to be invited in. When Jesus reached Emmaus, He acted as if He were going further, giving the disciples the choice to invite Him in. Jesus doesn't wait for us to "clean up" our lives, resolve every doubt, or fix our habits before He enters; He simply asks us to open the door so He can begin transforming us from the inside out.

- **Read Revelation 3:20. What are some common barriers or fears that hold people back from actively opening the door and inviting Jesus into their current struggles, doubts, or daily routines?**
- **What does the image of the latch being on the inside of the door reveal about God's character and how He interacts with us? Why do you think Jesus chooses to knock and wait rather than forcing His way into our lives or circumstances?**
- **Is there an area of your life where you have been slow to invite Jesus in fully? What has held you back?**

A genuine encounter with Jesus changes everything. Within the very same hour that their eyes were opened, the two disciples didn't stay put. They turned around and walked seven miles back to Jerusalem to share the news that hope was alive. Jesus hasn't given up on us, and His resurrection power gives us a living hope that moves us from merely "enduring" life to living with active purpose and trust.

- **They described their experience as their hearts "burning within them." Have you had a moment where Scripture or an encounter with God lit something up inside you? What was that like?**

Application

This week:

- **Identify your "closed door" write down your specific area of your life that you have kept locked.**
- **Every morning this week, pray a simple prayer of surrender: "Jesus, I invite you into every part of my life. I trust you."**

Prayer

Spend time in prayer thanking Jesus for the sacrifice He made on the cross so that we can find freedom.