

On the Road to Emmaus

Luke 24:13-35

"I can't figure it out," said Cleopas. "Peter says Jesus' body is gone. And Mary says she saw Jesus. She says Jesus isn't dead any more."

"I don't believe that," said the other disciple. "When someone is killed they are dead. They can't come alive again!"

It was the Sunday after Jesus was killed. The two disciples were going along the road to a town called Emmaus. As they walked a stranger came and walked with them. They didn't know who he was.

"What are you talking about?" asked the stranger. "And why are you so sad?"

"Where have you been?" asked Cleopas. "Are you the only one who doesn't know about all the things that happened?"

"What things?" asked the stranger.

"The rulers," said Cleopas. "And the soldiers. They hated Jesus. They killed Jesus."

"Why did they hate Jesus?" the stranger wanted to know.

"Who knows? Maybe they thought Jesus was going to start an army and fight them. Jesus told us he would be killed. Then Jesus said he would come alive again in three days. That's pretty hard to believe. Anyway, here it is, the third day since he was killed. Mary of Magdala says he's alive, but I don't believe her. As far as we know, Jesus is dead."

Then the stranger began to talk to them. The stranger told the story of Moses and all the prophets. "Do you find it hard to



believe that Jesus was killed?" asked the stranger. "Do you find it hard to believe that he came alive again?"

"Yeah. We sure do," said Cleopas.

The three of them reached the town of Emmaus. "Why don't you come in and stay with us?" they said to the stranger. "It's almost dark outside. Besides, you must be hungry."

Soon they were ready to have a meal together.

Then the stranger took a piece of bread, and broke it. He gave Cleopas and the other disciple pieces of the bread.

Suddenly Cleopas remembered. He remembered the last supper Jesus had with his friends. He remembered how Jesus had broken the bread.

"It's you!" shouted Cleopas. "It's you, Jesus. You're alive!"

And the stranger was gone.

"We should have known," said Cleopas. "When we were walking along. The way he talked to us. I felt warm and good inside as I listened to him. We should have known it was Jesus. We should have believed what Mary told us!"

