

CALVARY CHAPEL COSTA MESA

– COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE –

Jesus Encounters Series

“Jesus Re-Ignites Hopeless Hearts” – Luke 24:13-35

FELLOWSHIP

Traffic has integrated itself into the lifestyle of the southern California experience. Gone are the days when it was confined to only certain times of the day or which direction it would stall. Anyone who's daily routine includes a commute has to consider traffic in their estimated time of arrival. It feels like most social residents work someplace other than where they live. It is just part of our culture. Surprisingly, a lot can get accomplished with a regular commute. When I lived in San Clemente and attended the School of Ministry at Calvary Chapel, I used my sixty mile round trip to listen to sermon or books on tape. Looking back, I almost long for those dedicated times in the car. There was a spiritual discipline fostered by the confines of congestion. I could listen distraction free and journey through the Bible. Usually alone, the car cabin would also become a prayer closet. Most could attest that the antics of the highways seem to bring out the deepest parts of our personalities. What better environment to saturate my impulses and frustrations than listening to the Bible on tape, or expressing to God how I felt that morning. This helps me identify with the disciples on the road to Emmaus. Their carpool on foot to this suburb outside of Jerusalem was no doubt where a lot of ideas and plans would be hashed out. Being that this was the end of a festival, the traffic surrounding the city must have been very busy. The weekend was finishing and people were headed home. Then add the drama of an execution of the region's most recognized religious leader, and one can only imagine the conversations. This is where Jesus caught these two. They listened to this rabbi, who happened to also be the author of creation, narrate his own summary of *The Messiah in the Old Testament*. No wonder they reflected, “Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?”

READ & DISCUSS

Read out loud together as a group Luke 24:13-35 and discuss any observations that would be applicable to life today. Spend time reflecting on where Jesus meets you in your daily routine and what he does to re-ignite your heart each time.

Luke 24:30-31 *Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight.”*

- The story reveals some of the emotions and feelings of these two disciples. Jesus even inquires as to why they were sad. *Why is God interested in our emotions? How do our emotions reflect our beliefs? What experience have you had where God did something and it affected your beliefs and how you felt emotionally? Why is it important that Scripture guide those experiences?*
- It is interesting that the disciples did not recognize Jesus from appearance, voice, teaching style or content. Rather it was when he sat down to a meal with them and prayed. *What does this tell us regarding their familiarity of eating with Jesus? Why had Jesus been so intentional with this kind of routine? How does this impact your view of the communion service? What kind of daily activities trigger a Jesus awareness in you?*
- Many Christians have a hard time studying the Old Testament. Realistically, it was the Bible of Jesus and of the apostles. Pastor John read through a list of how Christ is revealed in all 39 books. *What were some of the examples you remember? Which ones have ministered personally to you as you reflect on Jesus? How can the believer use the Old Testament to share their faith?*

PRAY Teams are returning to Calvary Chapel from their summer missions trips all around the world this next week. Pray for all the new believers that were birthed and the vitality of the churches they will join.



Community Group Discussion Guide

Based on Pastor John Hwang's message on August 20, 2017.

Watch: <https://cccm.com/teaching/jesus-encounters/video/jesus-re-ignites-hopeless-hearts>