

# How the Story Ends (Luke 24:13-33)

Easter Sunday, 2024

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## THE BIG IDEA

The resurrection of Jesus reminds us that we are not at the end of our stories. Death, heartbreak, and endings don't have the final word.

## OPENING

- What's your favorite Easter tradition?

## DIGGING DEEPER

- Read Luke 24:1-12. How do these verses connect with what happens in verses 13-33?
- According to verse 17, why didn't Cleopas and his companion recognize Jesus at first? Why do you think God did this? When did they recognize him? (see verses 31 and 35).
- Reformed Bible scholar William Hendrickson says, *"How was it that in the breaking of the bread they suddenly recognized him? Did they see the marks of the nails in his hands? Was it the manner in which he broke the bread and gave it to them that opened their eyes? Or was it the way he spoke to his Father that refreshed their memories? Whatever may be the answer, the body of his resurrection now possessed qualities enabling him to appear at will and also, as here, to vanish at will."*<sup>1</sup> Why do you think Jesus' body possessed these unique qualities after his resurrection?

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<sup>1</sup>William Hendrickson, *Exposition of the Gospel According to Luke* (Baker Books), p. 1066



- Some might read this passage and conclude that Jesus' body wasn't real or that Jesus only appeared to have a resurrection body. Read John 20:19-28. How do these verses answer this idea?
- According to v. 27, how does Jesus help them understand God's bigger story?

## **PUTTING IT TO WORK**

- What circumstances in your life today feel like endings? How does reframing these circumstances as part of the middle help you face them?

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**