

Easter Sunday
April 17th, 2022
Jeff Bruce, Lead Pastor

The Biggest Story (Luke 24:13-33)

"Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" (Luke 24:32)

1. We Need a Story

"...we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel." (Luke 24:21)

2. We Want a Better Story

"...they stood still, looking sad." (Luke 24:17)

3. Jesus Offers the Biggest Story

"And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself." (Luke 24:27)

For further thought and discussion:

Getting Started

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?
2. What was your favorite story growing up? Why?

Going Deeper

3. Jeff said that facts only have meaning within a larger story. Why is this significant when we talk about the resurrection?
4. Why didn't the men on the Emmaus Road grasp the significance of the empty tomb (Luke 24:22-24)? What story were they using to make sense of the world (see v. 21)? How did this prevent them from understanding the empty tomb?
5. What alternative story does Jesus give these men (Luke 24:27)? How is it better than the story they had constructed for themselves (see v. 32)? What story does Jesus offer us? How does the Christian story speak to our deepest longings and intuitions? How is the resurrection unique in speaking to the mind and the heart?

Application

6. We tend to view life as a story. What greater narrative helps you make sense of your life? How do you make sense of your own longings and intuitions? If you aren't a follower of Jesus, what intrigues you about the Christian story? What do you have a hard time believing?
7. If haven't yet decided to follow Christ, what is currently keeping you from making this decision? Is it a *content* issue (you don't agree with certain aspects of the Christian faith), a *coherence* issue (you have an objection to the Christian faith that you can't resolve), or a *cost* issue (you believe that the decision to follow Christ will cost you something dear)?¹ If this issue was resolved, would you be more willing to follow Jesus? Discuss this issue with a Christian friend.
8. What's one thing you can do this week to apply this message?

¹ This question adapted from https://www.redeemer.com/skeptics_welcome/how_can_i_know_god/.