

## The Emmaus Road

...and he opened to us the Scriptures (Luke 24:32)

When I think of the number of people we baptized this weekend I only have one response, to fall on my knees and thank God for His spirit that is alive and working in and through the church today. When I think of the families and individuals that publicly proclaimed their identification in Christ's death and resurrection, I stand in awe and worship. Yet I wonder, does God want to do something more with HIS Church here in Elk Grove? I wonder if God wants to do something more with each one of us? This week's Emmaus Road will take us on a journey through Acts 2 on the day of Pentecost when He poured out His spirit and built HIS church. I hope you enjoy your time with God.

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### **Monday – Read Acts 2:1-13, and Psalm 133**

Psalm 133 uses two different images to describe the goodness of Christians living together in unity; one of anointing oil overflowing; and one of fresh dew, a renewing of God's blessings. Read Acts 2:1 again. The believers were all together and the anointing and renewal of the Holy Spirit poured out onto each of them. In verse 4, how did the filling of the Spirit manifest itself in the believers? In verses 6-12, what purpose did this manifestation reveal (especially look at verse 11)?

Take time to pray a centering prayer for you to be aware of God's spirit working in you. Find a quiet, peaceful place, and pray, "Spirit of the Living God, fall fresh on me." Let these words wash over you like the imagery the Psalmists gives in us in Psalm 133.

### **Tuesday - Read Acts 2:14-37, and Psalm 16**

Peter stands and addresses the crowd who is now wondering what has just happened. He quotes the prophet Joel (great name) to answer the questions of the crowd. Peter then proceeds to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus, his death and resurrection. He uses Psalm 16 to state that even David, King David, knew that Jesus would not decay in death but would rise again (Psalm 16:10). Why would this be important to people living in Jerusalem the city of David? Read again vs. 36-37. Have the words of Jesus cut through your heart? Have you ever asked the question what should I do?

Take time today to ask God what he has asked you to do. Sit in silence to hear his voice.

### **Wednesday - Acts 2:38-41 and Psalm 139**

Peter's reply to the question in verse 37 is "repent and be baptized, every one of you." This weekend we witnessed the baptism of dozen of people at FBC. As you were listening to the testimonies of these people what did you hear? What cut to your heart? Have you taken the step of repentance? Have you taken the step of baptism? Maybe you need to contact the church today and ask what it means to repent or perhaps to ask when the next baptism service is going to held. Read verses 40-41. Are we living in a corrupt generation? How many people accepted his message and were baptized? In one day, a congregation larger than ours was added to the fellowship of believers.

Take time today to let God search you and know you. Read through Psalm 139. Read it 3 times slowly, let the words seep into your soul. Trust God to search your heart. Take time to repent to allow yourself to be open to what God wants to do through you. We are living in a corrupt generation and Christ in us is the Hope and Glory for the world.

### **Thursday - Read Acts 2:42-47**

This is a description of the early church. What did they devote themselves to? Read verse 44. I hope it reminds you of a Psalm you read earlier this week. Take time to remind yourself of Psalm 133. Look at verse 47 daily. That is what God wants to see in our church. Are we as His church in Elk Grove living like Christ has called us to live so that numbers might be added daily? Daily; is that word in your mind yet? People saw the way they lived, the way they praised God and they wanted to be a part of it. Do people want to be a part of us?

Today invite someone over to your house so you might break bread together (You can reach me, Joel, at 685-4821 ext. 134 and I'd love to come over that we can break bread together. 😊). Share something of yours to someone who is in need. Let Christ shine through you!

### **Friday - Acts 29**

First of all stop looking for Acts 29 it's not in your Bible; rather it is inside of you... it's inside of us. The entire book of Acts is a historical book researched and written by Doctor Luke to accurately record the Acts of the Apostles as God used them to spread the Gospel and build His church. God is continuing to build HIS church and He is choosing to use you, to use us. We are Acts 29!

Take time today to celebrate. Celebrate what God is doing in your life, the life of the church, and the life of the people who were baptized. Go out to dinner or a picnic in the park and let people know today is a celebration, a celebration that God is still moving in the life of His people. Show joy in your life and allow people to join in with you and celebrate in that joy.

May you be blessed.