

**BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE
SERMON OUTLINE**

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“This Easter You Can Find Real Joy”

Luke 24:1-8; 13-35; Read vs.1-8; 30-35

There are three little secrets that nobody likes to talk about.

Secret one: **Exhaustion.**

Secret two: **Emptiness.**

Secret three: **Enslavement.**

We're going to learn about a man, Cleopas (v-18), and his companion. They are discouraged, heartbroken, and filled with shattered hopes. They are confused and downcast.

Jesus cared about these two. And He cares about you and me! Let's jump into the story. How do I know that Jesus cares about me?

I. BECAUSE HE KNOWS WHERE I'M GOING. vv. 13-15: *“Now behold, two of them were traveling that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was seven miles from Jerusalem. And they talked together of all these things which had happened. So it was, while they conversed and reasoned, that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them.”*

II. I KNOW THAT JESUS CARES BECAUSE HE KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING. vv. 16-17 – *“But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him. And He said to them, “What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?”*

III. I KNOW THAT JESUS CARE BECAUSE HE KNOWS HOW I'M THINKING.. vv. 18-24 – *“Then the one whose name was Cleopas answered and said to Him, “Are You the only stranger in Jerusalem, and have You not known the things which happened there in these days?” And He said to them, “What things?” So they said to Him, “The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and crucified Him. But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened. Yes, and certain women of our company, who arrived at the tomb early, astonished us. When they did not find His body, they came saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said He was alive. And certain of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but Him they did not see.”*

IV. I KNOW THAT JESUS CARES BECAUSE HE KNOWS WHY I'M DOUBTING. vv. 25-27 – *“Then He said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?” And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.”*

Look at what comes next. Look at Jesus' question vs. 26-27- *“Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?”* *“And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.”* Jesus, is in the OT concealed. He is in the NT revealed.

Why it was necessary for Christ to suffer on the cross and enter into glory...

1. That My past can be forgiven.

2. That My future can be secured.

Lets' look at what these two did next that helped them go to a deeper level. How will I respond?

- ◆ I invite Him to stay. **vv. 28-29-** *“Then they drew near to the village where they were going, and He indicated that He would have gone farther. But they constrained Him, saying, “Abide with us, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent.” And He went in to stay with them.”*
- ◆ I allow Him to lead. **v. 30** – *“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.”*
- ◆ I consider His wounds. **v. 31** *“Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight.”*

You want to know how much Jesus loves you? Look at His wounds. Look at Him on the cross. He took a nail for you! Then what happened?

Then they had - A burning heart v-32- *“And they said to one another, “Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?”*

Now look at vs. 33-35 - *“So they rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, “The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” And they told about the things that had happened on the road, and how He was known to them in the breaking of bread.”*

End of the story? No! Look at what happened Vs. 36-52. They found great (megas) joy! V-52. Confusion is becoming clarity. Your discouragement is turning into hope. Darkness into light. These two started with worry and ended in worship and joy. May this Easter morning you also find that REAL JOY in Jesus.