# A SURP RISE VISIT

<sup>13</sup> That same day two of Jesus' followers were walking to the village of Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> As they walked along they were talking about everything that had happened. <sup>15</sup> As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them. <sup>16</sup> but they were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> He asked them, "What are you discussing so intently as you

walk along?" They stopped short, sadness written across their faces. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, Cleopas, replied, "You must be the only person in Jerusalem who hasn't heard about all the things that have happened there the last few days." <sup>19</sup> "What things?" Jesus asked. "The things that happened to Jesus, the man from Nazareth," they said. "He was a prophet who did powerful miracles, and he was a mighty

teacher in the eyes of God and all the people. <sup>20</sup> But our leading priests and other religious leaders handed him over to be condemned to death, and they crucified him. <sup>21</sup> We had hoped he was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel. This all happened three days ago. <sup>22</sup> "Then some women from our group of his followers were at his tomb early this morning, and they came back with an

amazing report. <sup>23</sup> They said his body was missing, and they had seen angels who told them Jesus is alive! <sup>24</sup> Some of our men ran out to see, and sure enough, his body was gone, just as the women had said." <sup>25</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "You foolish people! You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures. <sup>26</sup> Wasn't it clearly predicted that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things

before entering his glory?" <sup>27</sup> Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. <sup>28</sup> By this time they were nearing Emmaus and the end of their journey. Jesus continued on as if he were going further, <sup>29</sup> but they begged him, "Stay the night with us, since it is getting late." So he went home with them. <sup>30</sup> As they sat

down to eat, he took the bread and blessed it. Then he broke it and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Suddenly, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And at that moment he disappeared! <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, "Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?"

#### 1

# KNOWING ABOUT JESUS IS NOT THE SAME AS KNOWING JESUS

#### Vs. 15-16

As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them. <sup>16</sup> but they were kept from recognizing him.



#### V

# KNOWING ABOUT JESUS IS NOT THE SAME AS KNOWING JESUS

#### GOD ALWAYS HAS A PLAN; BUT OFTEN, HE HAS SOMETHING HE WANTS TO TEACH US BEFORE HE REVEALS TO US WHAT HE'S DOING.





# KNOWING ABOUT JESUS IS NOT THE SAME AS KNOWING JESUS

"My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the Lord. "And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:8-9

#### V

# KNOWING ABOUT JESUS IS NOT THE SAME AS KNOWING JESUS

#### Vs. 19

...Jesus, the man from Nazareth," they said. "He was a prophet who did powerful miracles, and he was a mighty teacher in the eyes of God and all the people.



#### 1

# KNOWING ABOUT JESUS IS NOT THE SAME AS KNOWING JESUS

#### YOU CAN POSSESS A LOT OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT JESUS AND STILL NOT EXPERIENCE HIM IN A LIFE-CHANGING WAY.





# KNOWING ABOUT JESUS IS NOT THE SAME AS KNOWING JESUS

"It's possible to have 'head knowledge' of God and His Word without it filtering down into 'heart knowledge.' Head knowledge without heart knowledge is worse than useless; but when head and heart join forces, it changes our lives forever." ~ Dr. David Jeremiah

#### Vs. 20-21

But our leading priests and other religious leaders handed him over to be condemned to death, and they crucified him. We had hoped he was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel. This all happened three days ago.



## KNOWING WHAT JESUS DID IS NOT THE SAME AS HAVING FAITH IN HIM

#### IT IS POSSIBLE TO KNOW THE COMPONENTS OF THE GOSPEL WITHOUT BEING CHANGED BY IT.







# KNOWING WHAT JESUS DID IS NOT THE SAME AS HAVING FAITH IN HIM

"You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror." James 2:19



#### Vs. 22-24

some women from our group of his followers were at his tomb early this morning, and they came back with an amazing report. They said his body was missing, and they had seen angels who told them Jesus is alive! Some of our men ran out to see, and sure enough, his body was gone, just as the women had said."



# KNOWING WHAT JESUS DID IS NOT THE SAME AS HAVING FAITH IN HIM

#### WE NEED TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO DISCOUNT WHAT GOD HAS DONE SIMPLY BECAUSE WE CANNOT EXPLAIN IT OR UNDERSTAND IT.



#### Vs. 25-27

Then Jesus said to them, "You foolish people! You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures. Wasn't it clearly predicted that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering his glory?" Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.



**#SURPRISEVISIT** 

## BEING FAMILIAR WITH GOD'S WORD IS NOT THE SAME AS UNDERSTANDING IT

## OUTSIDE OF A KNOWLEDGE OF SCRIPTURE YOU WILL NEVER HAVE A PROPER UNDERSTANDING OF WHO JESUS IS. AND APART FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT, GOD'S WORD WILL NEVER MAKE SENSE TO YOU.



## BEING FAMILIAR WITH GOD'S WORD IS NOT THE SAME AS UNDERSTANDING IT

"But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit. For his Spirit searches out everything and shows us God's deep secrets. No one can know a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit, and no one can know God's thoughts except God's own Spirit. And we have received God's Spirit... so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us." **1** Corinthians 2:10-12



## BEING FAMILIAR WITH GOD'S WORD IS NOT THE SAME AS UNDERSTANDING IT

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you." John 14:26





## BEING FAMILIAR WITH GOD'S WORD IS NOT THE SAME AS UNDERSTANDING IT

"The work of the Spirit in helping us grasp the meaning of [scripture] is not to make study unnecessary but to make us radically open to receive what our study turns up." ~ John Piper

#### 1

### Vs. 30-31

As they sat down to eat, he took the bread and blessed it. Then he broke it and gave it to them. Suddenly, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him.





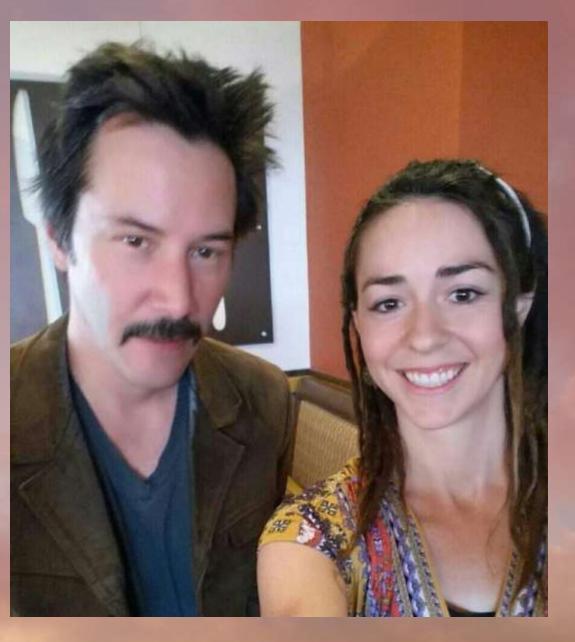
**#SURPRISEVISIT** 

#### HAVING AN ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS IS NOT THE SAME AS HAVING COMMUNION WITH HIM











**#SURPRISEVISIT** 

#### HAVING AN ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS IS NOT THE SAME AS HAVING COMMUNION WITH HIM

## IN THE INTIMACY OF FELLOWSHIP JESUS REVEALS HIMSELF TO US.



#### HAVING AN ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS IS NOT THE SAME AS HAVING COMMUNION WITH HIM

#### Vs. 31-32

And at that moment he disappeared! They said to each other, "Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?"





**#SURPRISEVISIT** 

#### HAVING AN ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS IS NOT THE SAME AS HAVING COMMUNION WITH HIM

#### FELLOWSHIP DOES NOT DEPEND ON OUR ABILITY TO SEE JESUS, BUT ON THE PROMISE OF HIS PRESENCE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF GOD'S PEOPLE.





#### HAVING AN ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS IS NOT THE SAME AS HAVING COMMUNION WITH HIM

"And let us not forsake our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near." Hebrews 10:25





#### HAVING AN ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS IS NOT THE SAME AS HAVING COMMUNION WITH HIM

## "Forsaking fellowship is a sure way to give place to discouragement. This discouragement festers where God's people are not exhorting one another." ~ David Guzik



