



# JESUS' RESURRECTION PROVES YOU MATTER TO GOD

## Lesson Three: There's a Plan Designed for You

### Road to Emmaus: Luke 24:18-27

Movie: 11:20 – 13:50

[Identify several questions to pause for deeper discussion in small groupings with a few points to share with all.]

As the two disciples walked to Emmaus, they were full of doubts and misgivings. We hit those moments too, don't we? We hardly understand the past and present much less know what the future may bring.

- 1. Describe different circumstances of life that fill people with doubts or uncertainty.

Recall the different circumstances in Abraham's life that would have filled him with misgivings and uncertainties.

Abraham was living in a special covenant relationship with God. God made an unconditional promise to him. Abraham, who was childless, would be the father of a great nation and have descendants as numerous as the stars. Through him *all nations of the earth would be blessed* (Genesis 12:3; 15:5-6).

- 2. Determine what God meant when he promised that all people would be blessed through a descendant (seed) of Abraham

**Galatians 3:16** *The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. The Scripture does not say "and to seeds," meaning many people, but "and to your seed," meaning one person, who is Christ.*

- 3. Explain what it says about Abraham when Jesus said, "Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad." (John 8:56).
- 4. Provide as many reasons as you can why Abraham would have to completely trust God on this promise actually happening.
- 5. When have you had to just live on faith that God would take care of things as promised?

**Read the Accounts ABRAHAM**  
Abraham's Call  
• Genesis 12:1-9  
God's Covenant  
• Genesis 15:1-6  
The Covenant confirmed  
• Genesis 17:1-8  
The Incredible Birth  
• Genesis 21:1-7  
*What most impacts you in these accounts?*

**God's Covenant Promise**  
*All nations will be blessed through you*  
• Genesis 12:3  
*Your descendants will be as numerous as the stars and the sand*  
• Genesis 22:17,18

We become impatient with seemingly impossible situations. Our tendency is either to give up or to try to fix it ourselves. Some of God's blessings cannot be gained by human effort but only as a miracle of his grace. The famous church father Augustine once made the statement: "Lord, you have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in you."

6. Read the passages below and discuss what is key to your relationship with God and why.

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**📖 Romans 4:2-3,18-25** *If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. What does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."... <sup>18</sup>Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." <sup>19</sup>Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead. <sup>20</sup>Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness." <sup>23</sup>The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone, <sup>24</sup>but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. <sup>25</sup>He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.*

**📖 Galatians 3:7-9** *Understand, then, that those who believe are children of Abraham. The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you." So those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.*

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The writer to the Hebrews in chapter 11 defines faith and provides examples of people who lived by faith. You do matter to God. Faith is hanging on to a promise with the confidence that he will come through as promised. It is the certainty that God does have a plan and is carrying it out in a way that will demonstrate the riches of his grace and kindness toward us.

Jesus frequently told his disciples that he had to first *suffer and die before he would enter the realm of glory*. He even described some of the details (Matthew 17:22-23). God had a plan that was unfolding. Now on the road to Emmaus, he helped two disciples see many of the promises and clues of that plan throughout the Old Testament.

#### Faith

- Hebrews 11
- Matthew 6:25-34
- John 14:1-14
- Ephesians 2:4-9
- Romans 10:1-15
- Matthew 17:20

7. Propose ways the following passages can also help you in your daily walk as you journey into the unknown.

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**📖 Ephesians 1:11-13** *In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, <sup>12</sup>in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.*

**📖 Hebrews 12:1-3** *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. <sup>2</sup>Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup>Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.*

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## Faith & Trust

*"Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for" (Hebrews 11:1,2).*