



Luke 24:15-27 New Revised Standard Version

¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.



but, when they are off even a bit, they can create disappointment.

It is difficult for us to admit when we are wrong in life. We like to perceive everyone else is misinformed and misguided, but we ourselves are always in the right. This attitude impacts many facts of life, but especially so our ideas concerning faith-related matters. Of course, this is nothing new and seems to have been a challenge for the two disciples in today's text.

Cleopas and an otherwise unknown disciple were traveling from Jerusalem to Emmaus when they were encountered by a "stranger" who had many questions concerning their sadness and what had happened to Jesus of Nazareth. Their response indicates that they thought Jesus was the one who would redeem the Jewish people from their Roman oppressors. He was a man of God, but unfortunately his life had been taken just days before this encounter.

They had ideas about the kind of Messiah Jesus was "supposed to be," but they had only a partial understanding of his ministry. The "stranger" insisted that these disciples were "slow in their understanding" of Jesus and from there shared from Scripture how it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer. What misunderstandings do we also have about Jesus?

Thoughts to Consider:

1. Unhealthy expectations give birth to our disappointments.
2. Jesus' words serve as a shock to our expectations.
3. Popular expectations give us a very distorted view of Jesus.

Prayer Pebble: Lord, forgive my slowness of heart and give me a better understanding of your Son.

Life has its share of disappointments and it has been suggested that without expectations there would be no disappointments in our lives. Expectations are a natural part of being human and are not necessarily a bad thing,



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