



## Life Group Study Notes

### THE PATH: GROW!

Ps. Kore Bendix - April 30, 2017

#### Warm Up (10-15 minutes)

**Choose a question below to answer, or ask another. No right or wrong answers.**

- What would you like to be doing ten years from now?
- Who do you need to help you get to the next milestone in your life? Why?
- Who are you helping in some way to achieve a goal in their life?

#### Word (10-15 minutes)

**Sermons can be heard online at [www.bethelworld.org](http://www.bethelworld.org)**

Jesus called his disciples to a journey with himself. He called them to know him, to grow in him, and to go with him on mission. Bethel is committed to doing this and to helping you do this. We call it our Discipleship Path, and summarize it with the imperatives: Know, Grow, and Go!

Luke 24:13-27 (ESV) *That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him.*

*And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. 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 happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some 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."*

*And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.*

- The two disciples were stuck in "what was." They had expected things to go differently with their lives. Consequently, they were heading in the wrong direction.
- We can be the same way. Our lives may not turn out as we had hoped. Things happen. Sin is committed against us. Sin is committed by us. Maybe life simply goes by and we feel left behind.
- Being stuck in "what was" kept them from recognizing "what is." For Jesus had entered their world and was actually walking with them even though they were seeing the wrong things, thinking the wrong things, and going in the wrong direction. But Jesus planned all along to redirect them.

*Luke 24:28-35 ESV So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.*

- Through the Word of God and the blessing of the communion meal, Jesus opened their eyes. The result was that they realized Jesus was with them. This impacted them so much, that they changed direction and walked back into God's purpose for their lives with fresh understanding and perspective.
- We too need our eyes opened and our hearts and minds enlightened, so that we might walk with Jesus and persevere in God's purpose for our lives.

### **Discussion (10-15 minutes)**

**Choose one of the points below, and discuss how the lesson applies to our lives.**

- Are you "stuck" in some area of your life? If so, please briefly explain.
- How could you position yourself better to hear what God would say to you about where you are and how he wants you to go forward?
- Who is someone you could possibly help get "unstuck" in their life?

### **Prayer (10-15 minutes)**

**Pray for any of the following, as well as any other requests you may have.**

- Ask God to show you things and speak to you about your future.
- What was the last thing God clearly spoke to you about your future?
- Pray and dedicate your life to fulfilling God's purposes for you. Ask for his help.