

# Road to Emmaus

## Luke 24:13-35, Mark 16:12-13



SuT1A

Aim: to remember that Jesus did not stay dead and is alive today



Have you had the experience of seeing something so longed for yet unexpected that it takes a while to actually believe your eyes. We see it played out on our TV screens - a wide eyed stare and complete stillness as the penny drops before a whole range of emotions are expressed. We cannot say what it was about Jesus that prevented his dear friends from recognising him that day as they walked together along the road to Emmaus. Maybe it was the deep bereavement of their Lord and master. We can all appreciate that there are times when we don't see clearly, when sadness, grief or exhaustion cloud our minds. However, it seems incredible that Jesus spent time sharing deep truths from the Scriptures with them, yet their eyes were closed! That all changed the moment he broke bread with them. Like a spell breaking, they suddenly realised that Jesus was with them. Can you imagine the joy in that moment as the penny dropped? Priceless!



*Let's play I Spy.* (Make this very easy by using sounds instead of letters and use things that are in plain sight in front of the children. Give clues about size, colour and function). Include one item that is in a bag or box to make it tricky to guess. After a few attempts to guess, reveal the surprise item. Choose a pleasant item that the children will love playing with afterwards, i.e. a new ball or favourite puppet).

*Before we play, I've got a story about a wonderful, big surprise in it to tell you all. Let's hear all about it.*



Read On the way to Emmaus, pg. 211

You could use small play figures to act out the story or show enlarged images from the story.

Break a bread roll slowly in front of the children as you tell the part of the story when Jesus breaks bread.



*I wonder how Jesus managed to keep the big surprise all day long.  
I wonder how the friends felt when they saw who he really was.  
I wonder how I would feel if I was one of those friends in the story*



Read: The Road to Emmaus Paperback by Louise Cross

Provide lots of puzzles and talk about how sometimes its tricky to work things out, even for friends of Jesus.

Write simple truths about God like 'I made you and I love you' with a white wax candle on paper/card. Hand these out and ask everyone to guess what they say. Give them diluted poster paint to brush over the words which are then revealed more clearly. Depending on age and safety conditions, you can do something similar by writing in lemon juice and heating it with a candle or iron to reveal the words



- Play a 'Guess who' game with toys that are normally available hidden in a bag. Describe each toy one element at a time and ask everyone to guess what it is
- Colour cut and stick craft: Visit Ministry2kidz for a free print out that will help everyone to retell the story. You will also find a tasty Emmaus Road snack idea there, too. <https://ministry2kidz.com/2018/07/13/road-to-emmaus-craft/>
- Print out the pictures from <https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-emmaus/> and see if they can be put in the right order of the story



- Provide a 'small world' area with characters and props for the children to replay the story in their own words. Depending on allergies provide real or pretend bread for the 'big reveal' moment



*Show me a sad face, a happy face, a puzzled face, a surprised face. Use these when they are mentioned in our prayer.*

*Dear Lord Jesus,  
It was so sad when you died  
Your friends were sad  
Your friends felt puzzled.  
Sometimes we feel sad  
Sometimes we feel puzzled  
Thank you for making your friends happy once again.  
Thank you that you are our special friend  
We are so happy to be your friend.  
Amen (Roll arms upwards for a big amen)*



- Praise ye the Lord (with stand up, sit down actions) <https://youtu.be/WuODF9Kbgnw>
- Shine
- I'm Yours



Read the story together with this ebook <https://online.flipbuilder.com/zrww/fwgx/>

Go on a wondering (looking and listening) walk. What surprising things do you discover along your way. Take photos to look at back at home.