

iWitness – Hearts on Fire

Introduction:

One encounter with Jesus Christ can completely change our lives. In our passage for this week, Jesus had just been raised from the dead, and we see two men walking alongside the road talking with one another about what had happened. We see in verses 19-20 that they knew Jesus to be a prophet, as well as one who would restore the nation of Israel. They go on to say that He was far beyond what they initially thought. Not only did He come to put an end to Roman oppression and restore a physical kingdom but came to free us from the oppression of sin and death and restore us to an eternal kingdom. All the while, their hearts were burning within them as Jesus continued to reveal Himself as the Messiah. He did this by opening their hearts to receive the Scriptures that pertained to Him. The same happens to us today. When we hear the Word of the Lord, we pray that the Holy Spirit will open our hearts to recognize Jesus and be filled with His presence, and that our hearts and very souls would be set ablaze by His Word. It is more than just a feeling... it is a move of the Holy Spirit. No one can truly change our hearts, but God alone has the power to set our hearts and souls on fire so that we hear His Word, see Jesus through His Word, and move forward living lives of unshakable faith.

Read Your Bible

- Luke 24:13-35

Apply God's Word to Your Life:

1. Imagine living in the first century and hearing the news that Jesus of Nazareth had risen from the dead. Describe what would be going through your mind.
2. How does these two men's false and true understanding of Jesus influence your understanding of Jesus?
3. Why do you think Jesus calls these two men foolish in verse 25? Was it warranted?
4. If you had a full evening with Jesus, what would you want to talk with Him about?
5. Why do you think it took these men so long to know that it was Jesus they were speaking to?
6. Have you ever had a 'heart on fire?' If so, describe your experience. If not, pray that the Lord would help you to hear His Word, to see Jesus, and to be changed by it.
7. What was the role of the two men in this passage? How can this impact your role in the church?

Reflecting on the text:

1. What have you learned about God?
2. What have you learned about the world?
3. What have you learned about yourself?

Pray

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you that you have conquered sin and death on the Cross, and that you reign in your eternal Kingdom. We ask today that you open our ears to hear your Word, and open our eyes to see you, and ask that by the power of the Holy Spirit, we would be changed forever. We ask this in your holy name. Amen!