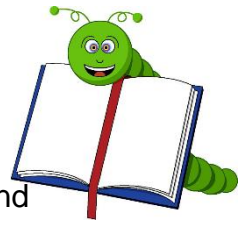


Sunday 26th April The Road to Emmaus



It is seven miles from Jerusalem to Emmaus. What an experience Cleopas and his friend had on the road and at their destination!

Let's watch an animation called 'The Seriously Surprising Story' made by the Bible Society. You can find the story in the Gospel of Luke Chapter 24 : 13 - 35. It is also in the Spark Story Bible as 'The Road to Emmaus'.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=ndtnZV-5QTo>

It took a while for the two friends to recognise Jesus and then he was gone. I wonder why they did not recognise him on the road - were they too intent in telling their story?

Sitting down for a meal and sharing food changed things . I wonder what they recognised ?

They were so excited to have seen Jesus that the story tells us that they ran back to Jerusalem to tell the other disciple what had happened.

What sentence do you think they might say to explain everything to the disciples?

Now imagine being so out of breath from running the seven miles that you could only say three words about Jesus. You need just three words that holds all the excitement and information you want to pass on about what has happened to them.

What if you couldn't speak at all? How would you communicate the excitement and wonder of having met with the risen Jesus?

An activity to try

Perhaps you could ask someone to find ten smallish items without you looking and put them on a tray with a cloth over them. Then take the cloth away for a minute so you can look carefully at them. Put the cloth back on and ask if one more item can go on the tray under the cloth that you have not seen.

Take the cloth away again for a short time and then put it back over the items. Did you recognise the new object that found its way under the cloth? Did you work it out straight away or did it take a little while?

You could play the game with different numbers of objects and times to look at them.

You could also reverse the game by taking something away and seeing if you knew what had gone.

Sometimes it is easy to see if something is different, sometimes it takes a while and we need a clue or our eyes opened to recognise the familiar.

Prayer:

Risen Jesus

We know that you are always close to us and that you find us even when we can't find you.

Teach us to trust your peace and share your love with all.

Amen

