

8. Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35)

“Hosanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Mark 11:9)



PLAN

Session Outline

1. Gather

Greeting
Emmaus
Walking Shoes
Transition to Explore

2. Explore

Sacred Conversation
Hear and See the Bible Story
Interact with the Bible Story
Say the Bible Verse
Transition to Respond

3. Respond

I Met Jesus
Pop-up Card
Loving God,
Loving Neighbor
Transition to Bless

4. Bless

Inviting
Praising
Blessing
At Home with God

Supplies

Basic Supplies: CD player | DVD player | Projector or screen | Television | Card stock | Construction paper | Craft glue | Crayons | Markers | Offering basket | Paper | Pencils | Scissors | Stapler | Tape

Gather: Bell | Carpet squares | Mod Podge® | Recycled maps

Explore: Bell

Respond: Candle | Multipurpose lighter | Bell | Carpet squares

Bless: No additional supplies

Before You Teach

The Gospels contain multiple stories of Jesus' post-Resurrection appearances. Of these, the appearance on the road to Emmaus is one of the most detailed. Two of Jesus' disciples were walking to Emmaus. The location of Emmaus is unknown. Scholars have proposed three possible locations within 7 to 20 miles of Jerusalem.

It was the first day of the week—the day of Jesus' Resurrection—and as the disciples walked along, they were discussing everything that had happened. Then Jesus joined them, but the men did not recognize him. In response to Jesus' question concerning what they were talking about, the men proceeded to tell him about Jesus. As readers, we can appreciate the irony in the question one of the disciples asked Jesus, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who is unaware of the things that have taken place there over the last few days?” We know that, in fact, Jesus was the one who truly knew and understood what had happened!

When the trio reached Emmaus, Jesus acted as if he were going on. Jesus was following hospitality etiquette of the time. In Near Eastern cultures, a guest was obligated to turn down an invitation of hospitality until it was vigorously repeated. The disciples insisted and Jesus accepted their offer of hospitality. As they shared a meal, Jesus “took” the bread, “blessed” it, “broke” it, and “gave” it to them. These actions were Jesus' signature; these same verbs are used in the telling of the feeding of the five thousand and the sharing of the Lord's Supper. It was through Jesus' actions, rather than his words, that the disciples finally recognized him.

As Jesus' followers, our actions often have a bigger impact than our words. Do our actions show others that we believe in and follow Jesus?

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GATHER

Greeting

Before class: Display your choice of an attendance chart (Class Kit—pp. 16-17 or pp. 18 & 15).

- Play “Part of the Story” (Annual Music CD).
 - Welcome and greet each child as they enter the room.
 - Indicate the location of the offering basket.
 - Help children mark their attendance inside the building on the Community Attendance Chart (opt.).
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A—Emmaus (Activity Sheet)

Before class: Obtain Activity Sheets (Session 8).

- Distribute “Curious Faith”/“Roads” (pp. 17-18).
 - Encourage the children to follow the journaling prompt and complete the activities.
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OR

B—Walking Shoes (Craft)

Before class: Obtain Mod Podge® and recycled maps. Cut construction-paper strips.

- Distribute card stock and paper strips.
- Let the children trace each other’s feet onto the card stock, one foot per page. Let them cut out the feet outlines.
- Use Mod Podge® to cover the foot outline with a map. Cut off excess paper and let dry.
- Direct the children to decorate the construction-paper sandal strips.
- When the foot outlines are dry, arc the rectangle strip over the top part of the foot outlines to make straps. Staple on both sides.

SAY: Today we will learn about Jesus appearing to two men walking down a road.

Transition to Explore

Before class: Obtain bell and carpet squares.

- Ring the bell to acknowledge that it is time to transition.
- Direct the children to choose carpet squares (or equivalent items), then sit in a circle on the floor.

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EXPLORE

Sacred Conversation

- Ask a few wondering questions.

ASK: I wonder:

- What made you laugh this week?
 - How did you help someone this week?
 - What are you grateful for?
 - Was there a difficult part of your week, and what made it better?
 - Where did you see God this week?
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Hear and See the Bible Story

Before class: Prepare television and DVD player.

- Read the Bible story (*CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible—Luke 24:13-35*).
- Watch the Deep Blue Adventure DVD Session 8.

ASK: How can you share the story of Easter?

Interact with the Bible Story

Before class: Obtain Bible Story Sheets (Session 8).

- Distribute the Bible Story Sheets and draw attention to Bible Story Retelling (p. 1).
 - Assign the three Narrator roles, then present “Emmaus.”
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Say the Bible Verse

Before class: Display Poster: Unit 2 Bible Verse (Class Kit—pp. 12 & 21). Review Unit 2 sign language (Leader Guide—p. 95).

- Recite the Bible verse: “Hosanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Mark 11:9).
 - Invite the children to say and sign the Bible verse with you.
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Transition to Respond

Before class: Obtain bell.

- Ring the bell, then invite the children to put away their carpet squares.

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RESPOND

A—I Met Jesus (Drama)

ASK: What do you remember about today’s Bible story? What would you do if Jesus appeared to you and your friends?

SAY: Let’s act it out. Imagine that Jesus appeared to you today. Think about what he would say or do.

- Arrange the children into small groups. Encourage them to create short dramas representing what they would do if Jesus were physically here today.
- Invite willing groups to share.

OR

B—Pop-up Card (Craft)

Before class: Photocopy “Road to Emmaus Pop-up Card” (Leader Guide—p. 54). Photocopy on card stock “Pop-up Card Part 2” (Leader Guide—p. 54). Additional instructions can be found at www.deepbluekids.com/free-stuff. Make an example card.

SAY: Jesus appeared to two men on the road to Emmaus. Let’s make a pop-up card to remember this special story.

- Distribute photocopies.
- Direct children in creating the pop-up cards.

Loving God, Loving Neighbor

Before class: Obtain Map 7: Deep Blue Shores (Class Kit—p. 8) and the cut out Figures/Pieces: Deep Blue Shores Map 7 (Class Kit—p. 25).

- Display the Deep Blue Shores Map 7 on the floor or table. While the children interact with the map and figures, talk about Emmaus.

SAY: In today’s Bible story, the men walking on the road did not know they were walking with Jesus. They realized it was him by his actions. Sometimes our actions are more important than our words.

ASK: Why do actions speak louder than words? What important actions does Jesus teach us to do?

SAY: Jesus teaches us so much. We can remember Jesus when we are kind and loving toward others.

Transition to Bless

Before class: Obtain bell, candle, multipurpose lighter (or battery-operated candle), carpet squares.

- Ring the bell to signal transition.
- Direct the children to choose carpet squares, then sit in a circle on the floor.
- Light a candle to symbolize that this is a special time together (*optional*).

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BLESS

Inviting

Before class: Continue to display Poster: Unit 2 Bible Verse (Class Kit—pp. 12 & 21) where it is easily accessible for children. Obtain envelope of cut out Poster Pieces: Unit 2 Bible Verse Poster (Class Kit—p. 29).

- Gather the children around the Bible-verse poster.
- Display the poster pieces.
- Invite a child to attach to the poster the “Emmaus” poster piece.

PRAY: Dear God, help us to believe in you and your Son, Jesus. Amen.

Praising

Before class: Obtain CD player and Deep Blue Song Sheets.

- Distribute the song sheets for “Part of the Story” (Annual Music CD).
 - Sing the song “Part of the Story” (Annual Music CD).
 - Collect the song sheets and store until the next session.
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Blessing

SAY: Let’s say an affirmation of our faith. This is a reminder of who we are called to be as Christians.

- Invite the children to repeat each phrase after you.

I believe in God, who loves me and wants me to love others.

God is the Creator of all things.

I believe in Jesus, who shows me God’s love.

He hoped for a world where everyone could live in peace.

I believe in the Holy Spirit—a Spirit that we cannot see but feel.

The Holy Spirit helps me know God is everywhere.

God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit teach me that I can be the Church,
reminding everyone of God’s power and grace. Amen.

At Home with God

Before class: Obtain Bible Story Sheets leaflets.

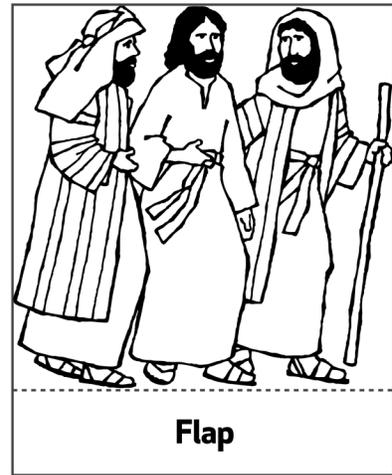
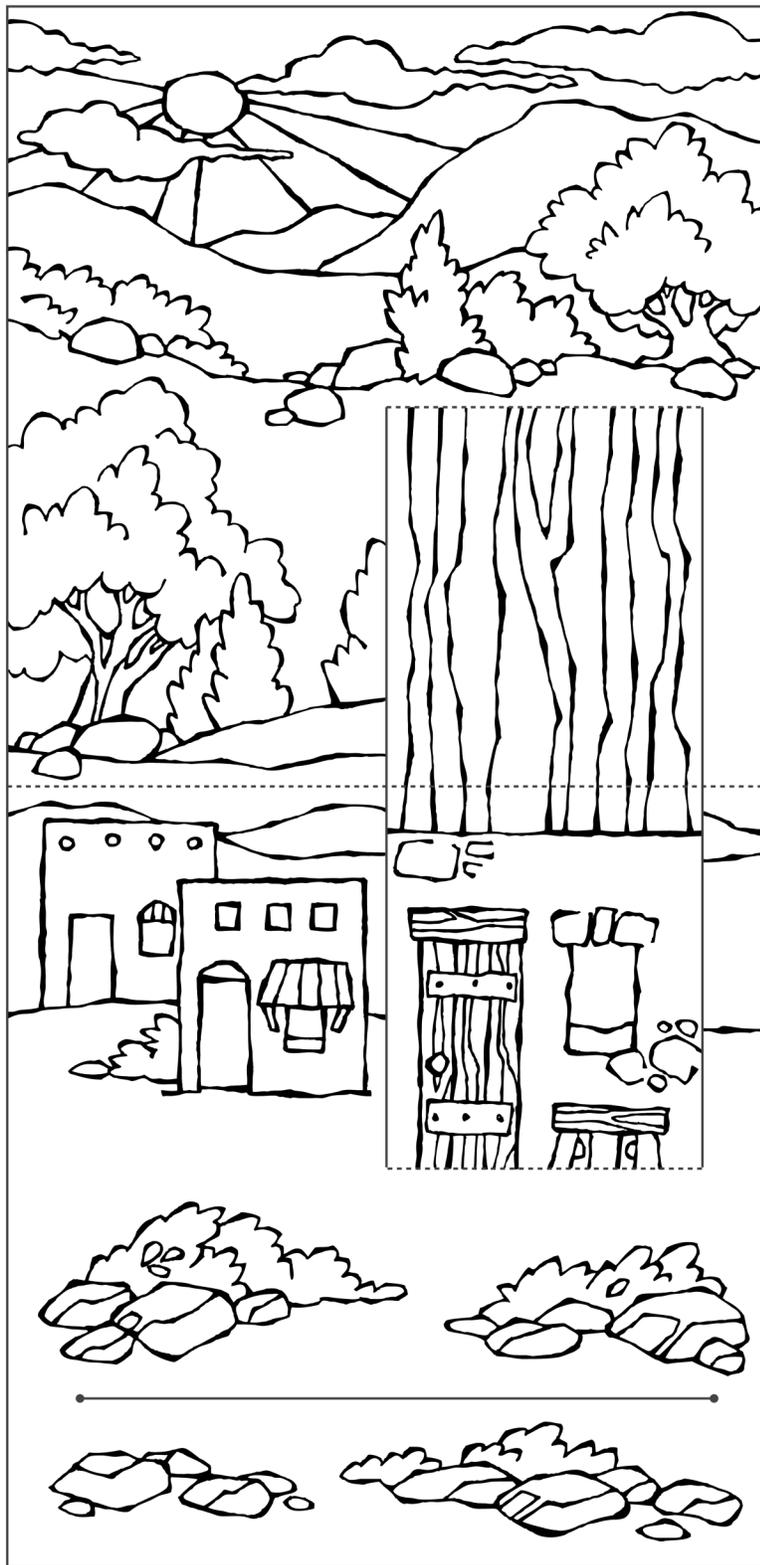
ASK: What is one thing that you learned today? Can you share with your family what you learned?

- Send home with each child Bible Story Sheets—Session 8 leaflet.

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Road to Emmaus Pop-up Card



Flap

Fold flap, glue tab to flap. Cut and fold card as shown. Insert flap into slot on card.



Insert men into slot, move with tab for them to "walk".



Tab

Card

Bible Verse

Glue verse to outside front of card, between left edge and cut line.

**"Hosanna!
Blessings
on the one
who comes
in the name
of the Lord!"**

Mark 11:9