

**WEEK SIX**  
**YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL: JESUS CONNECTION**  
**ROAD TO EMMAUS**

**THEME:** Put your hope in Jesus, who offers faithful love and redemption in abundance.

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**ICEBREAKER:** Who is someone famous that you have always wanted to meet.

**DISCUSS: Imagine if you met this person and talked with them.**

- What is something you would want to talk about?
- How different would the conversation be if you didn't know who they were?
- How would you feel? How would you feel after you realized you had blown your chance?
- Would you tell people about the situation or keep it to yourself? Why?

**VIDEO CLIPS: October Sky. (2 clips)**

Homer is from a coal town in West Virginia and has fallen in love with building rockets. He goes on to win the national High School Science Fair where he comes face to face with Werner Von Braun, father of modern rocketry, and does not realize it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ljMTiKtwyKk> (from 0:16-1:35)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CzOH54GemVo> (from 0:00 – 1:25)

**DISCUSS:**

- How do you think Homer felt when he realized he met his idol Dr. Von Braun?
- How would the scene play out differently if he knew he was talking to Von Braun?
- Why does his dad use that to belittle his son?
- What do you think of Homer's response to his dad?

**OPENING PRAYER: (Based on Psalm 131)**

Lord, please help our hearts to not be proud and our eyes not be haughty. Help us to not be concerned with matters too great and too awesome for us to grasp. Instead, calm and quiet us, like a weaned child who no longer cries for its mother's milk. Help our souls be like a weaned child. Help us put our hope in you Lord, now and always. Amen.

**THE ROAD TO EMMAUS:**

**SETTING THE STORY:** It is the first Easter Sunday, and two of Jesus' followers, (not any of the 12 disciples but men who were close), decided to leave Jerusalem and return home. They were feeling distraught and discouraged because of the events around Jesus' death.

**READ LUKE 24:13-32**

13 That same day two of Jesus' followers were walking to the village of Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem. 14 As they walked along, they were talking about everything that had happened. 15 As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them. 16 But God kept them from recognizing him.

17 He asked them, "What are you discussing so intently as you walk along?"

They stopped short; sadness written across their faces. 18 Then one of them, Cleopas, replied, "You must be the only person in Jerusalem who hasn't heard about all the things that have happened there the last few days."

19 "What things?" Jesus asked.

“The things that happened to Jesus, the man from Nazareth,” they said. “He was a prophet who did powerful miracles, and he was a mighty teacher in the eyes of God and all the people. 20 But our leading priests and other religious leaders handed him over to be condemned to death, and they crucified him. 21 We had hoped he was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel. This all happened three days ago. 22 “Then some women from our group of his followers were at his tomb early this morning, and they came back with an amazing report. 23 They said his body was missing, and they had seen angels who told them Jesus is alive! 24 Some of our men ran out to see, and sure enough, his body was gone, just as the women had said.” 25 Then Jesus said to them, “You foolish people! You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures. 26 Wasn’t it clearly predicted that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering his glory?” 27 Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. 28 By this time they were nearing Emmaus and the end of their journey. Jesus acted as if he were going on, 29 but they begged him, “Stay the night with us, since it is getting late.” So, he went home with them. 30 As they sat down to eat, he took the bread and blessed it. Then he broke it and gave it to them. 31 Suddenly, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And at that moment he disappeared! 32 They said to each other, “Didn’t our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?” 33 And within the hour they were on their way back to Jerusalem.

**VIDEO: BBC’s The Passion – Road to Emmaus** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dmmTWQn95xQ>  
Watch the video to provide more insight into this story.

#### DISCUSS:

- Why were these men feeling discouraged and arguing with each other?
- What did they tell the mysterious man about Jesus of Nazareth?
- [Read verses 19-24] What was their hope for Jesus (see verse 21) and why did they feel disappointed in their hope?
- [Read verses 25-27] Why does Jesus call them foolish. How did Jesus help them see that there was no reason for disappointment?
- [Read verses 28-31] Jesus told them all about God’s marvelous plan for redemption, pointing out how He fulfilled what was spoken by the Old Testament prophets. Why do you think Jesus needed to keep his identity a secret while talking to these men? How might that have helped process what Jesus was saying?
- [Read verses 32-33] Once Jesus was gone, the men said, “Weren’t our hearts burning within us while he was talking with us on the road and explaining the Scriptures to us? (verse 32)” How might Jesus’ explanation of God’s plan help them reinvigorate their hope in the Messiah?
- How might that have reinvigorated their hope in the Messiah?
- What do these men do with their reinvigorated hope?

#### READ: PSALM 130: 7-8

Israel, put your hope in the Lord. For there is faithful love with the Lord, and with him is redemption in abundance. 8 And he will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

#### DISCUSS:

- How does Jesus offer faithful love?
- How does he offer redemption in abundance?
- Why is it important to know that Jesus redeems us from ALL our iniquities?
- How does Jesus’ faithful love and redemption of iniquities allow us to put our hope in the Lord?

#### READ: Psalm 131:3

Israel, put your hope in the Lord, now and forever.

**DISCUSS:**

- How does knowing the story of the resurrected Jesus enhance our hope in the Lord?
- How does hope in Jesus help up now? How does hope in Jesus help up tomorrow? How does hope in Jesus help us forever?

**SAY:** Because of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ we have hope fulfilled. It is because of his faithful love that we can find redemption in abundance. It is because of his sacrifice on the cross and his glorious resurrection that we are redeemed from all our iniquities. When we put our hope in Jesus *now*, we are made right with God [salvation – justification]. When we put hope in him *always*, we are being transformed [sanctification].

**READ: ROMANS 5: 1, 10-11**

5 Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace[a] with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us... 10 For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. 11 So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.

**MAKE IT PERSONAL:**

Where is your hope? Does your hope bring encouragement or discouragement? Is it something that you can hope in both now and always?

**CLOSING THOUGHT:**

Put your hope in the Lord. There is faithful love and redemption in abundance. Rejoice in your wonderful relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God!

**CLOSING PRAYER:**

Lord, my heart is not proud, and my eyes are not haughty. I don't concern myself with matters too great or too awesome for me to grasp. Instead, I have calmed and quieted myself, like a weaned child who no longer cries for its mother's milk. Yes, like a weaned child is my soul within me. I will hope in You, Lord, now and always. Amen.