



## Walking with Jesus

(based on Luke 24:13-16, 28-31)

The whole of Jerusalem was buzzing with the news. “Have you heard?” exclaimed the people in the market place. “They say Jesus’ body is gone. It’s disappeared from the tomb. What does it mean?”

The disciples were very upset. They knew that Jesus had died and was buried. Now the tomb was empty. Some women said that they had seen Jesus alive, but how could that be? It didn’t make sense.

Two of the disciples decided to leave Jerusalem and go to a town called Emmaus (eh-MAY-uhs). As they walked along the road, a stranger came and walked with them.

The three men talked about Jesus and everything that had happened over the last three days. They arrived at the town of Emmaus just as the sun was setting. The two disciples asked the stranger to join them for a meal.

They got out some bread, cheese, and olives. The stranger took the bread, said a prayer, and broke it, just as Jesus had done the last time he had eaten with them.

Suddenly, the two disciples recognized the stranger. It was Jesus! He was alive. They reached out to touch him, but Jesus was already gone.

The two friends wanted to share the good news with the rest of the disciples. They jumped up and ran back to Jerusalem as fast as they could. They found Jesus’ friends gathered together.

“We have seen him!” they shouted. “We met Jesus on the road and he talked to us. We recognized him when he broke the bread.”

Everyone laughed and danced and sang for joy.

Jesus was alive!



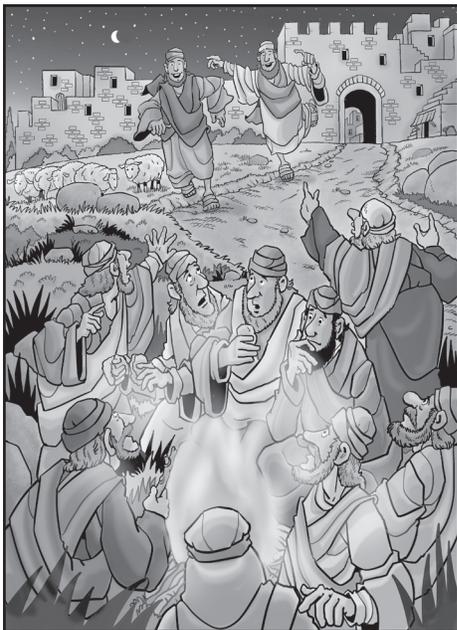
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Use one or more activities from each section to explore grace and gratitude with your children this week.

### Recognizing God's Grace

- Read and enjoy the story with your children—imagine and wonder.
- Wonder together about the most exciting person you have seen when your family has taken a walk together.
- Have you ever seen someone that you know, but you didn't recognize in the moment? Wonder together how this can be.



### Responding to God's Grace

- Take a walk with your family in a quiet park or neighborhood. Talk about all the places where you've seen God in your life in recent days.
- Make Easter cards proclaiming the resurrection of Jesus, and deliver or send them to a nursing home near your church.
- Jesus is with us in lots of ways, including the presence of other Christians. Brainstorm how your family can be the presence of Christ to other people in your congregation or community.

### Celebrating in Gratitude

- Enjoy a snack or meal of bread, olives, and cheese.
- Search for the song "Joy of the Lord." Sing and dance for joy.
- Pray:

*Jesus, thank you for being with us always.  
Thank you for walking with us. Help us to live  
by your example. Amen.*