

“Blindsided by Easter”

Mike Tuttle, Senior Minister

Luke 24:13-24 (NIV)

¹³Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus Himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶but they were kept from recognizing Him. ¹⁷He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?" ¹⁹"What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰The chief priests and our rulers handed Him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹but we had hoped that He was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²²In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³but didn't find His body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said He was alive. ²⁴Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but Him they did not see."

I'm Blindsided Sometimes

When _____

_____ I think they are.

(sometimes that includes _____)

When _____

_____ like I think they should/will.

"Without hope your life may not come to an end, but it does come to a stop." Erwin McManus

"When hope is crushed the heart is crushed."

Proverbs 13:12 (GNT)

"Emmaus is anywhere we go, trying not to care that the

bottom has dropped out of our world."

John Austry

If I have been blindsided I need to _____

_____.

Luke 24:28-31 (NIV)

²⁸As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if He were going farther. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So He went in to stay with them. ³⁰When He was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him, and He disappeared from their sight.

"The Risen Lord doesn't stand on a mountain a thousand miles away proclaiming that all is well; He comes right into the tough realities of everyday life. The Risen Lord comes close." Thomas Long

This gives us a glimpse into the personality of Jesus - He's almost mischievous in His behavior: He keeps them from recognizing Him; He plays dumb when they talk about the crucifixion; He acts like He's going to leave them and travel on past Emmaus.

"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul firm and secure." Hebrews 6:19 (NIV)

Faith is not about believing in something, faith is about believing in Someone.

"I've been looking for something - something spiritual."

John Lennon

A lot of people have been blindsided in life and are looking, wondering, hoping - Why am I here? Is there anything worth living for? Is there more to life - than this life?