



**for reflection & discussion:**

- Reread Luke 24:13-35 and the other passages
- What kept Cleopas and his companion from recognizing Jesus?
- What are the similarities and differences between the meal in verses 28-35 and the very first meal recorded in the Bible in Genesis 3:6-7?
- Luke intended that his readers should see the simple meal here pointing forward to the breaking of bread, which quickly became the central symbolic action of Jesus' people. Jesus was recognized by the couple in the breaking of bread (v.35). How is he also made known to us in the Lord's Supper or Communion?
- Share some contrasts that you see between how Jesus - the spitting image of God - portrays God and how popular religion or culture portrays God.
- What is one way in which your church community or tradition needs to take the portrayal of God by Jesus more seriously? How do you believe such a change might transform the way the church engages the world?
- How do you think your perception of God shapes how you relate to others? Does it?
- Can you remember a passage in scripture which causes you the most discomfort around God's character? If you applied the perspective that God looks like Jesus and that scripture is a product of both human and divine agency, how might that change how you understand the meaning of that passage of scripture?



A reformation is a period of recalibration and course-correction. Any community around for as long as the church will experience inevitable drift over time. Yet the Spirit has worked again and again throughout history to draw the church back toward its center. Key moments come when particular ideas and practices are rethought and core truths are rediscovered.

Rapid cultural and technological change, clergy scandals, church divisions, and political turmoil have resulted in a period where “deconstruction” is the buzzword. Many Christians find themselves rethinking their faith, and many outside the church dismiss Christianity as having nothing true or relevant left to say to the world.

**THIS SUNDAY: SHIFT ONE: JESUS GLASSES**

“God always looks like Jesus, and all scripture is properly read through him.” John 2:22 says that Jesus had to die and be resurrected before his disciples understood him and how he read scripture. When a person needs to be resurrected before they can be understood, we are no longer in “ordinary” territory. Add onto this the fact that resurrection itself is not “ordinary,” and we may be dealing with something more radical than we’ve been taught to think.

Once Jesus’ disciples grasped the paradigm shifts produced by Jesus, they never viewed the Bible the same way again. The disciple’s views of God were permanently changed because Jesus became their primary way to understand God. And scripture became all about God as they understood how Jesus explained and modeled him. (Col. 1:15, Luke 15:1-2; 24:13-35).



**connect**

- need prayer?
- ask questions
- get information
- make comments
- meet with pastor Shel or Josh
- sign-up for our weekly e-newsletter
- join a Home Church



## THE JOURNEY TODAY DISCOVERING SHIFT ONE: JESUS GLASSES

### PILGRIM CHURCH VISION: LOVE | INVITE | FLOURISH | ROOT

We exist to **love** our city and to **invite** our neighbours to **flourish** by **rooting our lives** in the outrageous love and life of **Jesus**. [*Jeremiah 29:7, 1 John 4:7-8, Ephesians 3:17, Col 1:17, Col. 1:28-29, John 13:34-35, John 3:16-17*]

*“God always looks like Jesus, and all scripture is properly read through him.” -Edem Morny*

John 2:22 says that Jesus had to die and be resurrected before his disciples understood him and how he read scripture.

*“Once Jesus’ disciples grasped the paradigm shifts produced by Jesus, they never viewed the Bible the same way again. The disciple’s views of God were permanently changed because Jesus became their primary way to understand God. And scripture became all about God as they understood how Jesus explained and modeled him.”*

### KEY SCRIPTURE

- **John 2:22** <sup>22</sup>So after he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the saying that Jesus had spoken.
- **Colossians 1:15-20**
  - <sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation,
  - <sup>16</sup> for all things in heaven and on earth were created in him—all things, whether visible or invisible, whether thrones or dominions, whether principalities or powers—all things were created through him and for him.
  - <sup>17</sup> He himself is before all things, and all things are held together in him.
  - <sup>18</sup> He is the head of the body, the church, as well as the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he himself may become first in all things.
  - <sup>19</sup> For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in the Son
  - <sup>20</sup> and through him to reconcile all things to himself by making peace through the blood of his cross—through him, whether things on earth or things in heaven.
- **Luke 24:13-35**

## FORGETTING THE JESUS GLASSES...

“...instead of viewing Jesus as the “pleasant side of God,” we should look at Jesus as the accurate picture of what God looks like.” -Edem Morny

*“The problem for many Christians might be that we think Jesus is too good to be true and need to supplement him with other portraits of God we see elsewhere, including in scriptures that seem in tension with his character.”*

The false leaders in Corinth and Galatians were doing this!

“For the secular person, perhaps the God that Christians have exposed you to makes you think the Christian God is just like the gods of most other religions, not worthy of two minutes of your time. The problem for you might be that Jesus has become too ordinary.

### Putting on the Glasses... Jesus Vision!

“Paul doesn’t get rid of scripture or minimize it; he simply refocuses his lenses where Jesus has shown that it needs to be refocused. Paul’s reading of scripture is not flat. Not everywhere has the same weight. The Jesus-looking portions trump everything else before or after them. It doesn’t mean these other passages of scripture are useless; they just don’t dictate the ethics Paul teaches his churches to follow.”

### ON THE ROAD With Jesus

Luke and the Road to Emmaus - they got their sight back on the road With Jesus

### REPENTING AND NEXT STEPS - Turning back toward a God who looks like Jesus

- Can our church communities, enraptured by a vision of a loving God who accommodates our failures while desiring and working for what is best for us, become a place of rehabilitation and restoration instead of a place of retributive judgment and self-righteousness?

