

# Readers Theater

## On the Road to Emmaus

### Roles:

Narrator 1, Narrator 2, Narrator 3, Cleopas,  
Disciple, Jesus

*Two disciples of Jesus have a most interesting  
encounter on the road to Emmaus.*

**Narrator 1:** On the very same day that Peter ran to the tomb of Jesus and was amazed to find it empty, two of Jesus' disciples were walking to a village seven miles outside Jerusalem—a town called Emmaus.

**Narrator 2:** Both disciples were talking about the events that had occurred over the past several days. Jesus had been tried and convicted. He was made to carry a heavy cross to the place where he was crucified. Then he was buried in the tomb. A large rock was hauled in front to seal the tomb. And now the tomb was empty!

**Narrator 3:** Empty! The two men could not get over it. They talked about what might have happened. Had Jesus' body been stolen? How could the rock have been moved? It was so heavy. They debated all the facts. They did not pay much attention to the man who started walking alongside them.

**Narrator 1:** They did not recognize that the stranger was Jesus.

**Jesus:** "What are you discussing as you walk along?" (Luke 24:17)

**Narrator 2:** The two men stopped abruptly. They looked downward. Their faces looked so sad. One of the men, named Cleopas, answered the stranger.

**Cleopas:** "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" (Luke 24:18)

**Jesus:** "What sort of things?" (Luke 24:19)

**Disciple:** "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people" (Luke 24:19).

**Narrator 2:** The men continued to tell the stranger about the events of the last few days. They recounted the hope they had had that Jesus would be the one to redeem Israel. But it had been three days, and now Jesus was dead.

**Narrator 3:** But then the two men's faces changed expression. They talked about some women from their group who had told them astounding news! The women were at Jesus' tomb early that very morning. They did not find his body! Instead, they had seen a vision of angels who announced Jesus was alive!

**Narrator 2:** Then the stranger, whom the two men still did not recognize as Jesus, spoke to them.

**Jesus:** "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" (Luke 24:25-26)

**Narrator 3:** Jesus continued to explain the Scriptures to the two men. Presently, the village of Emmaus stood before them. The men thought the stranger was going on farther. The men urged him to stay with them, for night was approaching. So Jesus went and stayed with them.

**Narrator 1:** While Jesus was with the two men at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. Suddenly, the men's eyes were opened!

**Cleopas and**

**Disciple:** You are Jesus!

**Narrator 2:** At that very moment, Jesus vanished.

**Narrator 3:** The two men were stunned. They looked at each other.

**Cleopas and**

**Disciple:** "Were not our hearts burning [within us] while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32)

**Narrator 1:** The two men hurried off into the night and walked all the way back to Jerusalem. They could not wait to tell the others what had happened to them. As they approached the others, they exclaimed to them.

**Cleopas and**

**Disciple:** "The Lord has truly been raised!" (Luke 24:34)

**Narrator 2:** Then the two men told all about what happened on the road to Emmaus and how they had met the Risen Lord in the breaking of the bread.

