



When You Have to Wait

April 19, 2020

OPENING PRAYER:

God of strength and peace, so often in our journeys we grow weary in waiting. Frustrated with lack of change and an inability to see the light at the end of dark tunnels, our minds are clouded with doubt. In those moments, remind us that you are always with us; that hope is never lost in you. Give us the strength to encourage others as we each navigate life's uncertain path.

BREAKING THE ICE:

Consider a time in your life when you were anxiously waiting on something to happen. What was it like waiting? Who helped you get through it?

WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:

Read Luke 24:13-32

- Why do you think Jesus takes time to listen to them for a while instead of just revealing who he is?
- Why do you think Jesus takes the time to re-explain the scriptures to these travelers?
- When in your life did you lose hope and deal with disappointment while waiting for an answer or solution that was slow to arrive? Can you see how God was at work in the waiting? What about the long-awaited answer helped you to realize God was in control the whole time?
- What helps you recognize that it is Jesus who is walking alongside you when you find yourself lost or discouraged on your journey?

NEXT STEPS:

- How will you make time/leave room to see Jesus in the stressful spots of your journey?
- Who in your life can you help to see Jesus at work while they are waiting for answers and a way out?
- Pandemic is a once in a lifetime experience; who can help you through this? What will help you thrive during this time?
- Consider those who are distraught and grieving in your congregation and community. How might you walk beside them?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

Ever-present, loving God, may we look to you and for you in all things and all times. No matter what situations we face in life, may we always feel your presence in the highs and lows, the mountains and the valleys. Through us, may the world around us also feel your loving presence. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior, Amen.