



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

May 4 - 5

“With a Little Help from our Friends”

By Rev. Eric Moeller

What Is This?

This brief guide is intended for use individually, or in small groups. It's your chance to dive deeper into the issues raised in the weekend sermon and to connect a Biblical story with your daily life.

Revisit the Text: Luke 24:13-35

Big Ideas Raised

- The first disciples were all pulled together by Jesus; by their faith and what they saw in him that compelled them all to follow him. As they journeyed together, they got to know each other, they learned together, they grew together, they experienced hardship together, they didn't always agree or get along, but their bonds of friendship grew strong. Thus, when Jesus was killed, they didn't disband, but stayed together.
- On the road to Emmaus we find two disciples, two friends, just doing what friends do; talking it all out, trying to process all that has happened. They are then joined by a stranger that seeks to listen to their predicament, and this is how new friends are made. An expression of concern followed by conversation can be the start of a long friendship.
- As they break bread around the table, the disciples see Jesus, but only for a moment. Jesus was with them, and he is here too. We get glimpses of him in the friendships we experience here, when we share our lives with each other, talk out complex issues together, make room in our lives and conversations for folks we may not have ever even spoken to, and share sacred meals together.
- In the end, like the disciples, we will get by with a little help from our friends.

Questions Meant to Dig Deeper

- Have you ever found yourself in a period of bewilderment, confusion, and uncertainty? What was the experience like, and how did you move through it?
- Jesus remained hidden to the disciples until the sharing of the meal. Why do you suppose Jesus kept himself hidden from the disciples until that point?
- From the early disciples to the current church, the Christian community has been a place where deep friendships are formed. Has church been a source of strong friendships for you? How did those relationships begin?
- How have you received support from others in the church?
- How have you given support to others in the church?
- Has there been a particularly meaningful interaction you've had with someone else at church?
- Where do you experience the risen Christ in the church?

Revisit the Sermon

For a recording or a manuscript of this weekend's sermon, please visit:

<https://www.stlucasucc.org/sermons-resources>