



## Stay With Us

Luke 24:13-35

Welcome to 'Together, Apart', a free printable intergenerational resource to help us be church together while we're keeping each other safe.

All the sections explore the same Bible passage in a range of creative ways. Choose whichever parts work best for you. You can use the resources on-line or print whichever pages of the PDF you need.

You can find lots more free resources like this at [www.reflectionary.org](http://www.reflectionary.org)

Here is what you will find in each week's post:



### A Word in Your Ear

A Bible passage that we can all learn from together, whatever our age.



### Food for Thought

Aimed at adults and teens, some thoughts and questions on the passage.



### Inner Space

A blank space for you to record your thoughts.



### Looking Closer

A creative and interactive look at the Bible passage. Great for older children and anyone who likes a creative approach.



### I Wonder...

An imaginative style of Bible study, perfect for younger children and those who like to immerse themselves in the Bible world.



### Take a Break

A chill-out zone, with meditative colouring for adults and children, and links to audio recordings of the passage so that you can listen while resting your eyes.



### Creation Station

A craft for children (or young-at-heart adults!)



### Outside In

Suggestions for activities throughout the week that link with the Bible passage.



### High 5

Suggestions for spending time with God.



## A Word in Your Ear

Take your time reading this passage from The Bible. Ask God to help you hear. You can decorate the space around the words if you like.

### Luke 24:13-16, 28-32

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him.

As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. But 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.

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight.

They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

(NIV)



## Food for Thought

The Road to Emmaus story is related by Luke, who specialises in recording first-hand accounts. The little details, such as their standing still at Jesus' question and the almost face-palm reaction in verse 32, paint a richly-coloured picture of a deeply personal encounter with the risen Christ.

Late in the afternoon of Easter Day, Jesus joins two sorrowful and disappointed disciples, Cleopas and probably his wife. When Jesus asks them about the news from Jerusalem, they describe Jesus' ministry, his death and the report of his resurrection. Interestingly, they do not comment on whether they believe what the women had told them that morning.

**Q: Do you think that the disciples believed the news? Would you have believed it?**

Jesus replies by taking them back through all the Law and the Prophets to show how his death was not some dreadful disaster, but the eternal plan, to which the whole of the Old Testament pointed. The disciples later recalled that their hearts were burning within them as they heard him speak.

**Q: What do you think they meant by this, and why do you think it happened? Why did they not understand before?**

It's approaching evening on Easter Sunday, and the two disciples invite Jesus to spend the night at their home. More than invite, they insist, saying that it's too late to travel further.

**Q: Do you think it really was too late to keep travelling, or was that a polite excuse? Why were they so insistent? Do you think Jesus would have stayed even if they had not asked?**

After the meal, the disciples travel back the seven miles to Jerusalem and find a large group of disciples assembled together, discussing how Jesus had appeared to Peter. They tell them excitedly how they had recognised Jesus as he broke the bread.

**Q: What other events does broken bread refer to? Why do you think they only recognised Jesus at that time? How do we recognise Jesus in the breaking of the bread?**

For many of us, this story of the road to Emmaus tells the story of our own journey. We walk with God but do not recognise his presence. Then in the middle of confusion comes a moment of clarity. All the pieces finally drop into place and we see God's hand. When we look back, we wonder how we didn't spot it before.

**Q: Can you think of times in your life when this has happened, when the penny dropped?**



## Inner Space

What's going round your head? Here is a space for you to put your thoughts on paper. You can write, draw ... whatever you like. What will you put here?



## Looking Closer

Two disciples are walking home from Jerusalem after the Passover feast. It's a journey of seven miles, so it would take them maybe three hours. This happens in the late afternoon of the first Easter Day, so a lot has been going on in the last few days.

**Imagine you are one of the two disciples. How are you feeling? Write it in the box or draw your expression.**

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for a student to draw or write their feelings.A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for a student to draw or write their response to the story.

A stranger joins them on the road. They assume he's walking back from the feast as well, and they are gob-smacked when he does not know what's been going on.

“What? Have you been living in a cave or something?”

The disciples tell Jesus everything that has happened, and why they are so sad.

**Could you tell the story like the disciples did? Draw yourself and Jesus with some speech bubbles to tell the story.**

They reach the disciples' home, and they persuade him to stop there for the night. “Stay with us”, they plead. During the meal, they realise it is Jesus.

Jesus was there with them, and had been with them all the way, even though they did not recognise him.

**When do you think Jesus might be with you, even though you do not recognise him? Write or draw it in the box.**

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a double-line border, intended for a student to draw or write their response to the question about Jesus being with them.



## I Wonder...

Imagine you are part of this story. Who would you be? What are you doing?

**I wonder what is your favourite part of the story. Can you show it here?**

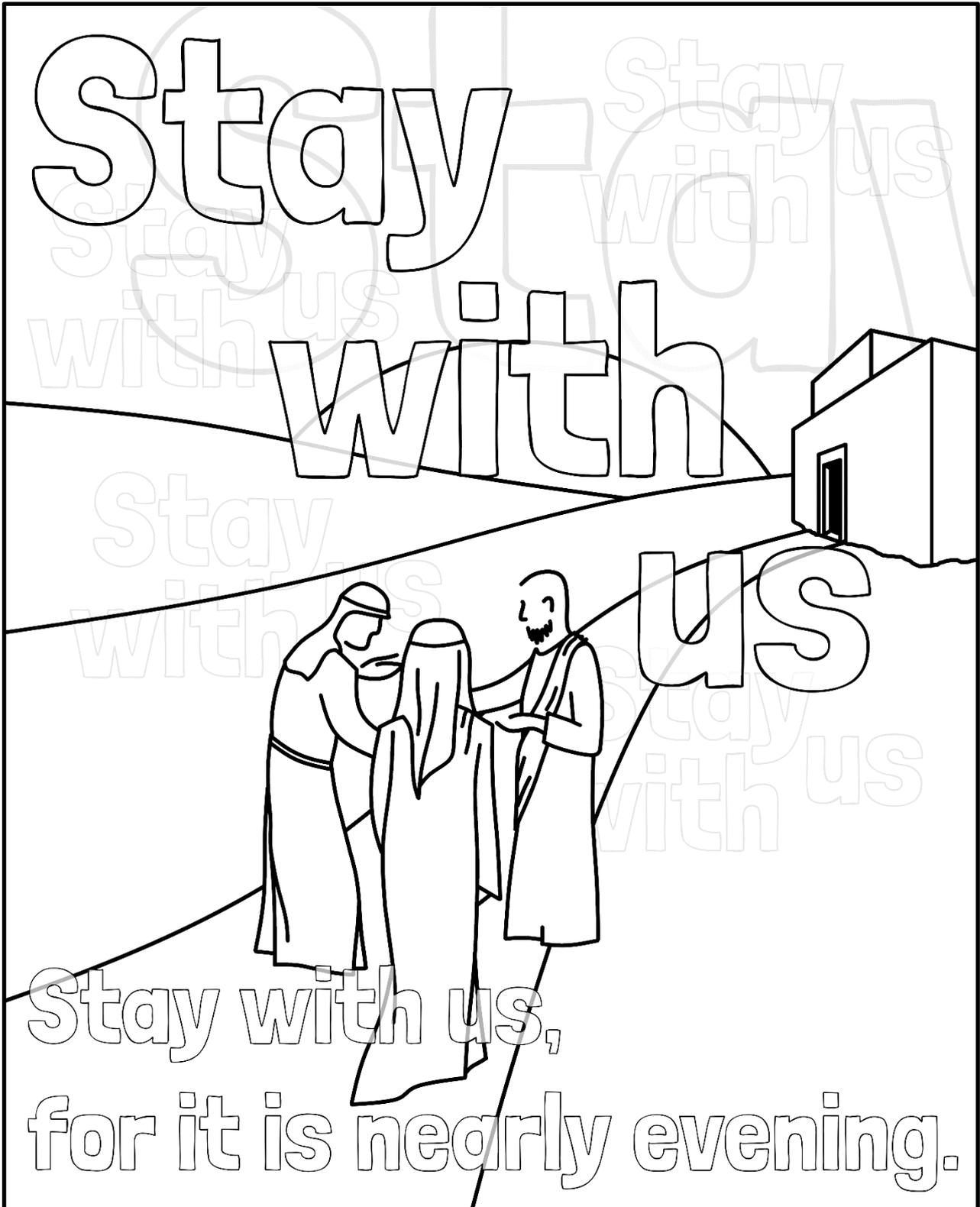
**I wonder what happens next in this story. Can you show it here?**

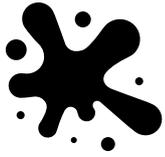


## Take a Break

Put on some music, or listen to the passage being read out while you simply sit and be. You can colour the picture below, or fill it with zentangles, or you can just spend the time breathing.

Luke 24 on Bible Gateway audio [ESV](#) – [Message](#) – [NIV \(Dramatised\)](#) – [NIV \(Suchet\)](#)





## Creation Station – Giant Hug

The disciples wanted Jesus to stay with them, not realising that he had been with them always, and always would be. We can make a giant hug to remind us that Jesus said, "I am with you always". You can use fabric or paper.

### You will need:

- Scarf
- Pair of gloves
- Stuffing (from an old cushion or pillow, or cut up an old t-shirt)
- Big needle and yarn (or mini clips, or glue dots)

OR

- Thick paper (old wallpaper is great)
- Marker pens
- Scissors
- Sticky tape



### What to do:

1. Stuff the gloves with something soft and squishy. Make sure you go right into the fingers.
2. Push one end of the scarf into a glove and sew it in place with big stitches. If you don't want to sew, you could use clips or glue dots instead. Do the same at the other end of the scarf.
3. Wrap your hug around your shoulders and tie the ends in a loose knot. As you tie it, remember Jesus' words, "I am with you always". (Matthew 28:20)

OR

1. Roll out a piece of paper that is longer than your arm span. Lie on your back on the paper, with your arms stretched out along the length of the paper. Spread your fingers out wide and have someone draw around your arms and hands.
2. Join up the lines at the top and bottom to make a long, thin double arm shape. Cut it out and decorate it if you like. Add Jesus' promise, "I am with you always".
3. Wrap the hug loosely around your shoulders and notice where the arms cross. Draw pencil lines at the crossing, from the top half way down on one arm, and from the bottom half way up on the other.
4. Strengthen the area around your pencil lines with sticky tape on both sides. Then cut them to make two half-slits. Slot your arms together and wear your hug to remember that Jesus promised to stay with us.



## Outside In

### "Stay with Us"

It's good to get outdoors if you can do so safely, being sure to follow physical distancing rules. If you can't get out, try bringing the outside in.

- Can you get some wild birds to 'stay with you'? Make a bird feeder by mixing melted fat with birdseed and breadcrumbs. Spoon the mixture into biscuit cutters on a baking sheet and press down well. Poke a hole near the top with a straw and chill your shapes in a fridge. When they have set, hang them with some string outside a window and see if birds come to visit.
- Recreate the meal that Jesus had with his friends. Bake your own bread if you can, then set up the table with a seat for Jesus. Read the Bible passage and break your bread when you come to that part of the story, then look amazed when Jesus' chair is suddenly empty. (You can probably miss off the hurrying to Jerusalem part!)
- Perhaps your daily walk isn't quite seven miles, but can you do a mile a day? In a week you will have done the walk to Emmaus. What will you talk about on the way?
- Send a card to someone who is stuck at home on their own, and remind them that Jesus is always with them. You could make your own hug card if you like.

What else can you think of?

**My ideas:**

Which will you do this week?



## High 5

Spend five minutes talking and listening with God. Here is one way:

### Bread Prayers

Jesus ate bread with his friends at the end of their journey. Jesus ate bread with his friends a lot, so we can use it to pray. Grab some bread, and have your favourite topping ready.

#### **Crust**

Pull off a little piece of crust. It is darker than the rest of the bread, because it has taken the heat of the oven. Let us pray for those who protect others from danger.

*Dear God, thank you for all the people who look after others. Thank you for hospital workers and carers. Thank you for fire fighters and police. Thank you for everyone who is working to beat the coronavirus. Please keep them all safe.*

Amen.

#### **Inside**

Pull out a piece from the inside and roll it in your fingers. The inside of bread is soft and you can easily squash it flat. Let us pray for those who feel vulnerable.

*Dear God, a lot of people are worried right now. Some are worried because they might get ill, or because someone they love might get ill. Others are worried about their jobs. Please look after everyone who is worried or ill, and keep them safe.*

Amen.

#### **Butter**

Spread some butter over part of your bread, but leave the other part dry. Let us pray for those who do not have what they need.

*Dear God, it is very sad that some people do not have enough food or clean water. Some people do not have safe places to sleep at night, or enough medicine. Please help us to share what we have, and to be generous to help others.*

Amen.

#### **Topping**

Spread your favourite topping on the bread. Bread is delicious on its own, but even nicer with cheese or jam or chocolate spread. Let us thank God for his goodness to us.

*Dear God, you love us more than we can imagine, and you give us so many good gifts. Help us to be grateful for everything, especially for things that we sometimes take for granted. Thank you for \_\_\_\_\_.*

Amen.

#### **Eating**

Now you can eat your bread. With each bite, think of a word to describe God, spelling out the word B-R-E-A-D, like this: God, you are b...