

**April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2006: Emmaus Road Resurrection Experience: Luke 24:13-35:**  
**Baptismal Karen Rumpf**

**Grief is a mood....we have all exp....**will do so again....

We grieve because we have lost...& the level of intensity of that grief....  
is directly related to the emotional value we attach to that lost thing or person

**SO**

- **We grieve over** the first bump or scratch.....new car.....lost that pristine newness
- **We also grieve** when we begin to lose our health.....  
but this grief is deeper....harder to handle
  
- **We especially grieve** when someone who we love dies....for we realise that in  
earthly terms.....this is one loss...that affects us to an intensity that cannot be equaled

**For altho all grief affects** us to some degree....the grief assoc with ...one we have  
loved ....particularly if that love and companionship....spanned many years  
..**hits us harder**.....and lasts longer... than any other

**This 'stand alone' type of grief**.....strikes with numbing shock.....pain...anger...  
...when the death was sudden.....violent.....unexpected.....  
destroying dreams of what could have been

- **This was exactly the type of grief**.....Cleopas and his friend were experiencing  
on that first Easter Sunday.....as they journeyed together toward the village of Emmaus

**In Luke 24:13 we read**.....The “two of them’ refers back to the Apostles and others..

**So these were two of Jesus’ close followers**

As such they had witnessed the crucifixion of their friend and leader...just the Friday b4

**THEN**

On the Sat....along with the rest.....the numbing shock had started to be replaced....  
...by the unthinkable truth..... of Jesus’ death.....

**No more would they...**

**Then came Sunday morning**.....and the ridiculous story brought by the woman....of  
angels...resurrection.....**And the** unavoidable empty tomb→theories of conspiracy

**And it was all this confusion**.....too much for their grief sickened hearts to handle  
So they left the rest.....hotly debating the issue.....and started off toward their

And as they walked along.....they talked.....

- **But then the resurrected Christ came alongside**.....

and although they didn't recognize..

He being with them ....changed everything

- Changed the way they viewed what had happened
- Changed their understanding of the Scriptures
- Changed their grief.....as they went from heartache...to hearts that burn't with excitement

**All this happened**....because Christ was with them.....even though they didn't know it was Him.....

**That's an exciting thought really**.....That Christ can be alongside people assisting...aiding....revealing.....**Without** being asked....w/out being recognized

→ **and isn't that what we pray for**.....when we pray for our non-churched friends.. times of need....→**and** what an encouragement to keep on doing so...this passage gives!

*(story of Arty...)*

- **But what we also see here**.....is Christ demonstrating the power of the Scriptures

**It was** from the Scriptures...initially came to believe...in the fact of death/resurrection

**Look at v25—27....Then v32.....**

**I sense that even** before He revealed Himself.....they had come to accept.... ..through His opening of the Scriptures....the fact of the resurrection

**John talking** about the part of the Scriptures he wrote said....John 20:30-31.....

**We must never** underestimate the power of the Bible to convert  
(*Gideons...The Spirit is able to take and open a Scripture to a believer or non-believer*)

(*Philip Yancey tells the story of a man called Christian Reger.....Confessing Church  
....Nazi Concentration camp.....p107...*)

**We need to know the Scripture.....**read the Scripture.....Because God will  
speak to us through them.....and to those...that God leads us to pass His word on to

- **But it was not the Scriptures alone** that finally convinced them.....  
Jesus was alive....**They** went a long way to doing so.....

**What they** heard from the Scriptures caused them  
.....to constrain Him to remain....when it seemed He would have passed on by

**But it was when** He revealed Himself to them personally...that their eyes were opened  
**And they** saw Him as their Lord.....

**And straightaway.....**went back to Jerusalem

With a burning desire.....share the truth about Jesus with others.

**Today Karen is being baptized** ...and its part of a journey for her...  
going on for several years...

**Bought up to** attend church.....she has been surrounded by the Scriptures from an early  
age.....**and in** her heart she early accepted the truth of them.....and sought to be true  
to the Jesus she was taught to love and trust

**But there came for her that moment**.....when the Lord drew alongside.....and waited  
Waited for her to constrain Him to stay in her life.....

**Not just as a friend** ...from whom she would receive so much....yet give little  
**But as her Master**.....As the one she would put first...

- **The one who** would have the final say about every major decision.....
- **The One who** Has the right to be in charge...of what she does with her life.....
- **The One** that she is prepared to live for.....and if needed....to die for

**Karen has not just made that decision**.....She did so some time ago

**This act** of baptism is part of that total surrender to Jesus.....as her Lord and Saviour

**This morning is the Lord drawing alongside you**.....

wanting to reveal Himself....to you

**Not just as a friend**.....**that you can do as you please with**  
But as your Lord.....Who demands complete allegiance

**He asks you** to take the step of total commitment.....A step that demands changes in life

In your thinking perhaps.....your plans.....your attitudes.....your obedience

**That might mean for you**.....as it has for Karen  
the decision to be obedient and be Baptised .....

**Will you let Him walk on by**

Or will you give Him the place in your life...rightfully His

