

# The Road to Emmaus

## Lesson At-A-Glance

Scripture Reference  
**Luke 24:13-35**

Lesson Focus  
**Be ready—Jesus is alive!**

### Gather (10 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
<b>Center Time</b> Kids get ready for guests, play with toy vehicles on a road, and color Bible story pictures.	Coloring Pages 	Dishpan, toy dishes, broom, toy iron, table, chairs, napkins, toy tea set, toy cars and trucks, painter's tape, blank paper, markers or crayons
<b>Circle Time</b> Kids welcome one another by shaking hands and pretend to add food to the basket.	None	Basket
<b>Prayer Time</b> Kids pray a table prayer.	None	None

### Open the Bible (15 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
<b>The Road to Emmaus Storytelling</b> Leader reads aloud from the Spark Story Bible.	Spark Story Bible	None
<b>Partner Hula Hoop</b> Kids walk with partners.	None	Hula hoops
<b>A Sad Walk</b> Kids add sand to their leaflets.	Leaflets	Sand, double-sided tape, spoon

## Activate Faith (15 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
<b>Who Are You?</b> Kids hide behind masks and then reveal themselves.	Leaflets	Masks
<b>What's for Dinner?</b> Kids add stickers to their leaflets.	Leaflets, Lesson Stickers	None
<b>Set the Table Relay</b> Kids play a relay game.	None	Two place settings of plastic dishes and utensils, two placemats

## Send (5 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
<b>Good-bye Time</b> Kids throw beanbags into a hula hoop while naming sad things.	Leaflets	Hula hoop, beanbags
<b>Prayer Time</b> Kids pray about sadness.	Family Pages 	None



Looking for additional Spark content to further engage kids? Visit [wearesparkhouse.org/kids/SHOSS](http://wearesparkhouse.org/kids/SHOSS) to learn more about these options for purchase.

- The Director's CD-Rom contains Activity Pages, Coloring Pages, Family Pages, Large Group Openings, and two additional in-class activities for each lesson.
- A Spark Online annual subscription gives you access to all content contained in the Director's CD-Rom and the Spark Leader Guides, plus administrative tools and other extras.

# Gather (10 minutes)

## Center Time

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You may choose to set up all or some of these learning centers for kids to play in as they arrive in your classroom. Have helpers in each center to help kids with the activities. Kids can stay in one center or travel to more than one.

When all the kids have arrived and have had time to participate in at least one learning center, say to the kids, **“The beginning of our story today is very sad. Let’s put away our toys and walk sadly to Circle Time. Make your face look sad. How would you walk if you were sad? Let’s walk that way together.”**

### Housekeeping

Let the kids play with the dishes and other housekeeping items. Have them pretend they are getting ready for guests. **What do we do when we get ready for guests? Clean and prepare food!**

### On the Road

Make roads on the floor with the painter’s tape. Encourage the kids to drive the cars and trucks on the roads. **Today we will hear about two travelers who are joined by Jesus.** Be sure to take the tape up after class so it does not leave a sticky residue.

### Coloring Center

Have coloring supplies available at a table for the kids to color. Be sure to help them put their names on their papers.

## Circle Time

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**When we meet someone new, sometimes we shake the person’s hand and tell the person our name. Let’s welcome one another today by shaking hands. We’ll say, “Welcome,” as each person tells us her or his name.** Go around the group and let kids share their names and shake hands with someone. **Since we already may know each other, this activity could be silly!**

Ask kids to sit in a circle again. **In today’s story, Jesus eats dinner with friends. Let’s pretend I have a basket full of food for us. What would you want to be in the basket? We are going to pass the basket around. When you get the basket, tell everyone what you wish were in the basket. I’ll go first. My favorite food to have in the basket is [name a food].** Pass the empty basket around until everyone has a turn.

### Spark Resources

Coloring Pages



### Supplies

Dishpan  
Toy dishes  
Broom  
Toy iron  
Table  
Chairs  
Napkins  
Toy tea set  
Toy cars and trucks  
Painter’s tape  
Blank paper  
Markers or crayons

### Spark Resources

None

### Supplies

Basket

## Prayer Time

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**When Jesus sat down to dinner with his friends, they shared a prayer together. We can pray before we eat, just like Jesus did.** Share a favorite table prayer.

Spark Resources  
None

Supplies  
None

## Open the Bible (15 minutes)

### The Road to Emmaus Storytelling

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**The friends in today's story are very sad. They are going to walk a long way home after hearing that Jesus died. Let's read to find out what happens to these two friends.**

Spark Resources  
Spark Story Bible

Supplies  
None

Take out your Spark Story Bible and open to The Road to Emmaus on pages 488-491. Read the story out loud and point to the corresponding pictures. Look for Squiggles the caterpillar in each picture. Ask kids what they think Squiggles is feeling or doing. Encourage them to make faces like Squiggles.

Ask the following questions, allowing time for the kids to answer. **Why were the men sad at the beginning of the story?** (*Jesus had died.*) **How did they feel at the end of the story?** (*happy*)

**If you saw Jesus, who would be the first person you would tell?** Affirm all answers.

### Partner Hula Hoop

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Form pairs and give each pair a hula hoop. **Cleopas and his friend were happy to keep each other company on their long walk. We're going to work with friends to see if we can have fun walking together. Climb in your hula hoops and see if you can walk together. Keep the hula hoop around your waists. Try to make it across the room.** Let the kids have fun walking together in the hula hoops. Make sure that everyone has a partner. If you have an odd number of kids, you can either put an extra kid in one hula hoop or join in yourself!

Spark Resources  
None

Supplies  
Hula hoops

## A Sad Walk

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Invite everyone to gather around the table. Give each kid a leaflet. Point to the picture on the front of the leaflet. **Look at the two men walking on the road. They look sad and tired. They are on their way home. They look like they have been walking a long way. Let's put some sand on the road for them to walk on.** Attach a few pieces of double-sided tape on each leaflet. Let the kids use a spoon to sprinkle a little sand on the tape. Shake the extra sand back into its container. As kids add sand, talk more about the story. **Who is the man in the distance? What do you think he will say to the friends? Jesus is alive!**

### Spark Resources

Leaflets

### Supplies

Sand

Double-sided tape

Spoon

## Activate Faith (15 minutes)

### Who Are You?

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Ask kids to turn over their leaflets. **When Jesus met his friends on the road, his friends did not see that he was Jesus. They thought Jesus was still in the tomb. When they realized it was Jesus and not a stranger, they were surprised and very happy! They couldn't wait to tell their other friends.**

### Spark Resources

Leaflets

### Supplies

Masks

Point to the leaflet pictures of kids in costumes. **There are some pictures on our leaflet. It is hard to tell what these kids really look like. Have you ever worn a costume? Have you ever seen someone you know who was in a costume? Did you recognize the person?** Allow time for responses.

Hand out the masks. They can be simple paper-plate masks with happy faces if you don't have other masks available. Have kids hold the masks to their faces. Become very concerned when you don't recognize any kids around the table. **Where did all of my regular Sunday school kids go? I feel sad and alone because I don't see my friends.** Have the kids put the masks down. **Oh, there you are! I'm so happy to see you!** Play this peek-a-boo game a few times if kids enjoy it.

### What's for Dinner?

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**Cleopas invited Jesus for dinner, even when he didn't know the stranger on the road was Jesus. Wouldn't it be exciting to have Jesus come to dinner at your house? Wow! What would you eat?** Affirm all answers.

### Spark Resources

Leaflets

Lesson Stickers

**We have some food stickers. Let's put our food stickers on the plate so that Jesus and his friends will have good food to eat.** Hand out the stickers. **I wonder what Jesus liked to eat. What is your favorite food? Do you think Jesus would like that?** Allow time for sharing.

### Supplies

None

## Set the Table Relay

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**When Cleopas and his friend invited Jesus for dinner, they had to set the table. Do you sometimes help set the table? We are going to set the table in a funny way. Everyone will put just one thing on the table.** Form two groups. Give a dish or utensil to each kid. Set the placemats on different ends of a table or on the floor. **Each team will send one person at a time to set his or her thing on the table. Walk as fast as you can and then walk back. As soon as you get back, the next person can go set the table! We'll be done as soon as the table is set!** Avoid identifying winners or losers.

Spark Resources  
None

Supplies  
Two place settings of plastic dishes and utensils  
Two placemats

## Send (5 minutes)

### Good-bye Time

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Have the kids sit in a circle and thank them for coming. Set the hula hoop in the center of the circle. Give everyone a beanbag. **Cleopas and his friend were very sad at the beginning of our story today. Who remembers why they were sad? (because Jesus had died) Sometimes things make us sad, too. Let's go around the circle and tell something that makes us sad. Throw your beanbag into the hula hoop when you tell your sad thing. Jesus can make us feel happier, just as he made Cleopas and his friend happier. It sometimes helps just to know that Jesus cares that we are sad.** Go around the group until everyone has thrown his or her beanbag. Have a few suggestions ready for kids who have a hard time naming something sad.

Spark Resources  
Leaflets

Supplies  
Hula hoop  
Beanbags

Hold up the leaflet and point to Faith on the Go! on the back. **Be sure to take your leaflet with you, because it has one more fun activity you can do with your family. Send a postcard to someone far away. Cleopas and his friend had to run all the way back to town to share the good news. We can send happy news much more easily! We just need a stamp or e-mail!**

### Prayer Time

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**Let's pray about the sad things in our hula hoop. We can ask God to help us when we are sad. God wants to be with us when we are sad. Let's fold our hands and pray together.**

**Dear God,  
Thank you for being with us when we are happy and when we are sad.  
Amen.**

Be sure to send leaflets home with the kids, and give each of them a Family Page to take home.

Spark Resources  
Family Pages



Supplies  
None