



## Dealing with Disappointment

*“Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?”—Luke 24:32*

How long will this COVID-19 thing last? When will people get to go back to work? How are small businesses going to make it? How long can the church survive online? Is this the end of the world as we know it? Is Jesus coming back? And what about me... when will my life get back to normal?

These are just some of the questions I hear people asking as their freedoms are shrinking in the midst of our current crisis. That said, is it okay to acknowledge, for just a minute, that most if not all of us are disappointed at some level about the disruption we are experiencing?

Many of us have had vacation plans, weddings to crash, birthday parties to attend and anniversaries to celebrate. And then there's the fact that we can't meet to worship together face-to-face (Easter was a tough one!). While there have been many creative ideas such as drive-by honking parties, parking lot worship and pan bashing acknowledgements for the sacrificial work of our medical professionals, the disappointment is real.

In a way, the disappointment is not unlike what the first disciples might have felt after the kangaroo trial and execution of Jesus on Good Friday. It probably seemed like the end of the world for those who put all their stock in Jesus. This is so clearly seen in the confusion and dashed hopes of the two men walking on the road to Emmaus: *Jesus was our way out. How could this happen? What do we do now that He is gone?*

And then, out of nowhere, the resurrected yet unrecognizable Jesus shows up and walks alongside them. And even though He chides them for their unbelief, Jesus didn't rail on them for their disappointment. He let them sit with it as He opened up the Scriptures to the sad pair. It wasn't until He broke bread with them that they got it. There was no fanfare from Jesus. Just a deep burning in the hearts of these two friends that their hope was not

in vain. Jesus met them right where they were and where they needed Him most and then left to let them sort it out.

May I suggest that no matter what the crisis or how severe it may be, Jesus is right in the middle of it with you? He has no interest in beating you over the head with your restlessness or disappointments. But He will let you sit with it. He does want to provide a place of rest for your soul *now* so that when this crisis has passed you will be able to sort things out in the *future* with a peace that lasts.

Friends, I don't know when this crisis will end, but I do know a Saviour who can and will lead me through it, disappointments and all. How about you?

Hungry for LIFE!  
Pastor Doug Lutz

P.S. If you would like to share your thoughts, questions or a story on how Jesus is walking alongside you at this time, please [click here](#). I'd like to hear from you.

## Coming Alongside the Community

As the hands and feet of Jesus, we are all called to sacrificial service to others in one way or another. A big thank you goes out to so many of you are doing your part in your own local community. From buying and delivering groceries and prescriptions, to collecting goods for those in need, to hand delivering worship and devotional resources to those who are not online, your labor is not in vain. So, let's keep going. Keep thinking outside the box about ways we might continue to find the proverbial "itch" in our communities and ask God to help us find ways to "scratch" it.

By way of reminder for the community of Cranbrook,

**TODAY (Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>)**

... is the day to drop off your donations for the Salvation Army at Mt Zion Lutheran. Here are instruction:

For Pick-ups at your home:

Please place your items on your front stoop by 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, April 15

Remember to keep Food separated from toiletries \* Warm socks, clothing, jackets, blankets, towels can be placed in plastic garbage/recycle bags \* All other items such as sleeping bags, tarps, etc. can placed in garbage bags.

For hand-delivered items to the church:

There will be someone at the church from 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon on Wednesday.  
Otherwise, leave your items for pick on at the front entry way.

**Want to share your thoughts, insights or questions!**

[Click here.](#)

Want to help others in our community? [Click Here.](#)

Have a Prayer Request? [Click Here.](#)

Looking for a message or Worship Short? [Click Here.](#)

Want to Give? [Click Here.](#)

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