The Joy of The Resurrection Luke 24:13-55

"Talking about spiritual matters is a most important means of grace. As iron sharpens iron, so does exchange of thoughts sharpen the believer's soul. It brings down a special blessing on all who make a practice of it. (See Malachi 3:16-17).

What do we know ourselves about spiritual conversation with other Christians? We ought to "consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds" (Hebrews 10:24). We ought to "encourage one another to build each other up" (1 Thessalonians 5:11). If we have no time for spiritual conversation, let us think again.

Let us learn from the two travelers to Emmaus. Let us speak of Jesus when we are sitting in our houses and whenever we can find a disciple to talk to (Deuteronomy 6:8). If we believe we are traveling to a heaven where Christ will be the central object of every mind, let us begin to learn the manners of heaven while we are still on earth. If we do this, we will often have One with us whom our eyes will not see but who will make our hearts burn within us by blessing the conversation." J.C. Ryle

I. Unbeknownst to the disciples on the road to Emmaus, God was drawing them to Jesus through the Word made alive in their hearts. He drew them with their minds and with their hearts to see the reality of the gospel fulfilled in the resurrection of his precious Son. God offered them truth. and truth caused their hearts to burn (yearn) for the Savior.

Luke 24:13-35; 2 Timothy 3:16; John 6:48-51

John 6:44 "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day"

A. Jesus drew them first by engaging their minds through the truth of the Scriptures. He opened up the Scriptures to rebuke and correct their thinking so that they would be able to reason through their unbelief. The truth of God's Word is meant to challenge false thinking, refute it, and replace it with right thinking about what it means to follow Jesus.

Luke 24:13-27; 2 Timothy 3:16

B. Jesus drew them next by opening their hearts to see the truth of the gospel in all its fullness. His purpose was to evoke a heartfelt desire to fully embrace him as their Lord and Savior.

Luke 24:28-35; John 6:48-51

Romans 10:8-11 But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is the word of faith we are proclaiming: That if you confess with our mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trust in him will never be put to shame."

II. Once Jesus established his disciples to stand solidly on the gospel, he commissioned them to preach repentance and forgiveness in the power of the Holy Spirit to all nations. It is the same commission he gives all believers as we "look forward to the day of God and speed its coming" (2 Peter 3:12).

Luke 24:36-53; Acts 1:3; 1 John 1:1; Acts 10:39-41