

Kids' Chronicle

Jesus surprises two men

BY JOE SARNICOLA

Two men were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus, a small village about seven miles away. Along the way a man they did not recognize asked if he could join them.

"What is it you have been talking about," the man asked, "that seems to be upsetting you so much?"

The men looked at him and one of them, whose name was Cleopas, said, "You must be the only person to visit Jerusalem who does not know what has just happened."

"What has happened?"
"There was a man named Jesus who showed he was a prophet of God, by what he said and by what he did," Cleopas explained. "Yet, in spite of this, our own chief priests and leaders ordered him put to death and they let him die on a cross. We thought he was going to be the savior of Israel, but he has been dead three days now."

Then the stranger asked, "What did you expect to happen after he died?"

"We were not sure what would happen," Cleopas replied. "Yet something remarkable has been told by some women of our group. They went to his tomb early in the morning to pray when they found angels guarding an empty tomb who told them Jesus was no

longer dead. He was gone."

This time the stranger spoke more sternly.

"How foolish are the people of this world," he said. "Did you not believe what the prophets told you? Did you not listen to what even Jesus told you would happen?"

Then the stranger spoke of the prophets and of all the words that were written in the Scriptures and explained them so that they were able to understand them. The men hardly noticed the time as they walked, but when Emmaus came into view the stranger said he had to continue on past the village.

"Please join us for supper," they said. "And we have an extra room where you may spend the night. It is already starting to get dark."

The stranger agreed to stay with his



Illustration by Linda Jeanne Rivers

new friends. When they were having supper, he broke a loaf of bread and shared it with everyone at the table. Suddenly they recognized the stranger was Jesus. In that instant, Jesus disappeared. The two men left immediately for Jerusalem to tell what they had seen.

READ MORE ABOUT IT:

Luke 24

Q&A

1. Why were the two men so upset?
2. Who was the stranger?

Bible Accent

Jesus instituted the Mass at the Last Supper. He shared the bread that had become his body and the wine that had become his blood with the disciples, and told them to continue to do so in memory of him. It was when he broke the bread in Emmaus that the two men finally knew who he was.

We meet Jesus today in a special way when we go to Mass and share in the bread and wine that have become his body and blood. The Mass is divided into two main parts.

The gathering and the liturgy of the Word — with readings, homily and general intercessions — make up the first part.

The liturgy of the Eucharist, with the presentation of the bread and wine, the consecration, the Lord's Prayer and Communion make up the second part.

The Mass is so important that the Catholic Church says we should go every Sunday.

Pope St. Martin

Pope St. Martin I was a generous, well-educated man. He was a deacon in the city of Rome. He served as an ambassador for the pope, and he himself was named pope in the year 649.

Because some of his opinions and directives contradicted the beliefs of other religious leaders of his time, Pope St. Martin was arrested and taken to prison in Constantinople. There, poorly treated and underfed, his health began to fail. After his trial, he was sentenced to exile. He felt abandoned by the Roman people, and he wrote of the horrible conditions he was forced to live in, yet he continued to pray that the faith of the Christians in the world would remain strong.

Pope St. Martin died in exile, and he is considered a martyr. We honor him on April 13.

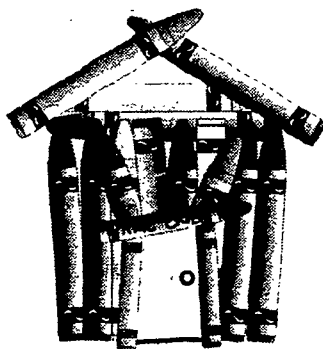
Puzzle

How many names of books of the Bible can you find using the letters of the words in the following verse?
Answers on page 8.

"The Lord has truly been raised."

(Luke 24:34)

Kids' Club



You can win a \$50 savings bond by writing an essay (100 or fewer words) answering this question:
Why do you think the two men on the road to Emmaus did not know who Jesus was until he broke the bread?

Send your essay — including name, home address, telephone number, school and grade — to Catholic Courier, P.O. Box 24379, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. Deadline for entries is April 15, 1999. The winner will be notified by phone and receive the savings bond by mail. In addition, the winner's essay will

be published in an upcoming issue of Kids' Chronicle.

No entries were submitted in response to last month's question, Why is it important for us to have faith when we pray?

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