



Monday

READ: Luke 24:13-35

REFLECT: The statement “We had hoped” in verse 21 reveals that these followers of Jesus were lost and hopeless because of disappointment. They were confused over Jesus’ crucifixion and rumored resurrection. But hope was staring at them right in the face! They had become so distracted by their confusion; they didn’t recognize Jesus.

RESPOND: How have you been distracted by hopelessness? How could hope be staring you in the face? Ask God to reveal His hope-filled perspective to you.

Tuesday

READ: John 11

REFLECT: Lazarus’s friend couldn’t understand why Jesus was slow to come to the aid of his friend Lazarus, but Jesus had bigger plans. He wanted there to be no human explanation for this miracle so that God alone would get the glory.

RESPOND: What things has God done in your life that can only be explained as His doing? Spend time pondering these times and praise God for His wisdom.

Wednesday

READ: Romans 5:1-11

REFLECT: Jesus’ resurrection is a gift from God that gives us hope. Because of this gift, we can be reconciled to God. It was Jesus’ cross and resurrection that made God’s grace available to us. When we accept this offer and repent of our sin, God justifies, reconciles us, and puts us on the path to redemption.

RESPOND: Spend time praising God for your reconciliation to Him. Ask Him to give you insight as to how you can share this awesome truth with others.

Thursday

READ: 1 Peter 1:3-11

REFLECT: Our new birth in Jesus Christ gives us a present and eternal hope that anchors us in the storms of life. When we are battered and left hopeless by life’s difficulties, God’s hope gives us meaning and purpose. We can live beyond our hurt by living in the hope that Jesus’ resurrection provides.

RESPOND: How are you living beyond the hurt in your life? Ask God to give you strength to see through your pain toward the joy that awaits you for all eternity.

Friday

READ: Philippians 3:10-14

REFLECT: Paul’s entire life goal was to know God and experience resurrection power in his own life. He knew the same power that rose Jesus from the dead is the same power that enables Him to live a victorious life in Jesus. Paul knew that he could do all things through Christ for the glory of God.

RESPOND: What are some of your life goals? How do these goals fit in with God’s overall goal of your life — to know Him?