

# CITY LG – April 22-24, 2023

**Today's Bible Story:** Stand by Me (On the Road to Emmaus) • *Luke 24:13-35*

**Today's Bottom Line:** Put others first by helping them understand.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.* Philippians 2:3 (NIRV)

## WORSHIP

*At the Top of My Lungs*

*Won't Let Go*

**Have kids get into their small groups Before you start Large Groups**

*SLIDE: Theme*

"Hello, everyone! Welcome back to the City. This month we're finding out how we can GROW in humility!

*SLIDE: Virtue*

**"Humility is putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve.**

*SLIDE: Theme*

"You can put someone first by letting them have a turn, letting them choose the game or TV show, or even just listening to what they have to say. God can help us be humble and think of other people instead of just trying to get attention for ourselves.

I have a question and I want you to circle up in your small group and spend a few minutes answering this:

**When has someone helped you understand something?** Go ahead and discuss this in your group...

*Large group leader should walk around listening to groups as they answer this. Give them a couple of minutes.*

In our story today we will see how Jesus helped some people understand something very important! Well, over the past few months, we've been making our way through God's Big Story.

"We saw how God created the world, including people. People turned away from God, but God had a plan to make things right. God promised to bless the world through Abraham's family. And when the time was right, Jesus, God's Son, was born in Bethlehem.

"Jesus lived a life of love and compassion, and He taught people about God like no one had ever heard before. Jesus then showed the greatest act of humility the world has ever known. He put US first by dying on the cross for our sins. Then He came back to life!

"Well, when all of this happened, things were a little wild for Jesus' followers. People heard rumors that Jesus' tomb was empty. And some people believed that Jesus was alive! For those who hadn't seen Jesus yet, all of this must have seemed too good to be true."

The same day that Mary had seen Jesus alive, two of Jesus' followers were traveling to a village called Emmaus, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem. These two men were talking about everything that had happened over the last few days. All of a sudden . . . something unexpected happened."

Let's see what happens in the Story Lab

*VIDEO: Bible story*

“Think about what it was like for the two men who were walking to Emmaus. They didn’t understand God’s plan like we do today. All they knew was that Jesus was someone people THOUGHT might be the Savior . . . but then He died. It didn’t make sense. Some people were saying that they’d seen Jesus alive, but to the two men on the road, that must have seemed impossible.

“Everything changed, though, when Jesus met them on the road and walked WITH them!

“Jesus wanted to help these men understand what God was doing, even when things seemed scary or confusing. That was one really big way that Jesus showed His friends that He loved them! Jesus put them first by helping them understand.

“That’s something we can do, too.

Let’s check out our bottom line...

**VIDEO: Bottom Line**

**SLIDE: Bottom Line**

**[Bottom Line] “Put others first by helping them understand.**

“Let’s pray and talk to God about that now.”

**SLIDE: Theme Background**

## **PRAY**

“Dear God, thank You for showing Your love by sending Jesus! It’s amazing to think about Jesus appearing with the two men in the story and how He helped them understand that everything that had happened was part of Your plan. That must have made them feel so happy and grateful! Thank You for all the ways You help us understand things. Please show us how we can do that for other people, too. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

## **OFFERING TIME:**

Before we go to small groups, all this month, we have been bringing our money to support Vida Nueva Ministries in Piedras Negras, Mexico. Your offering helps people just like you to have the resources they need to experience a new life with Jesus! Here is a picture of our friends Eli and Mandy Garcia and their family...

**SLIDE: Eli and Mandy**

They are our friends and Parkview Global heroes that tell people about Jesus down in Mexico. So, if you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now while this video plays!

**CG: Vida Nueva Ministries Video (Runtime: 2:00)**

*Small Group Time*