

He's A Good Listener

He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

"What things?" he asked.

Luke 24:17-19 (NIV)

Recently I was with a wonderful friend having lunch. The conversation turned to talking about someone we both knew. My friend commented, "He's a good listener." I heartily agreed. There was something about the man that made it so easy for people to talk and share their deepest secrets with him.

Jesus is exactly that sort of person. His gentle manner is such that people feel free to express all their secrets to Him.

Our verses today are taken from the famous passage of the Emmaus Road where Jesus speaks to two confused disciples who had their lives shattered by the crucifixion of Jesus. They were not expecting a crucifixion and they were therefore not expecting a resurrection.

But that morning some women had reported they had seen Jesus alive and had seen His empty tomb. They

had no idea what to make of this extraordinary report. As they walked away from Jerusalem to their home in Emmaus, Jesus came alongside them and asked what they were discussing. They were shocked at His question as everyone in Jerusalem was talking about the resurrection story. How could He not know the only thing on peoples' minds?

Jesus clearly knew exactly what – or rather who – they were talking about. But He still asked them to tell Him. Jesus is a good listener.

Good listeners may know much more about a subject than the people he or she is with, but the good listener knows enough to keep their mouth shut and let the other people talk.

People who think they know everything cannot wait for others to stop talking so they can start. These people are poor listeners. They love the sound of their own voices and cannot wait to gain

control of the conversation.

Jesus loves to hear the sound of other peoples' voices. He is so happy to have people talk to Him and share their deepest fears and sorrows. He listens to the faintest cry in the dark. He understands the deep groaning of those who suffer.

If you need someone to listen while you pour out the hurt and pain of your life, be assured Jesus will come to you and say what He said to these two disciples long ago. He will say to you, "What things? Tell Me all about it." Come to this Listener and talk to Him today. He waits for you to tell Him everything. He will not betray your confidence. Come to Him and come today.

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