

**Happy Graduation Sunday and Happy Eastertide!** We are still in the 50 days between Easter and Pentecost (May 31) where each Sunday is a celebration of resurrection and NEW LIFE. And we are still staying at home to keep everyone safe but there are still holidays and celebrations and today is a special day to celebrate GRADUATES! Graduates are going through a big change in their life - especially high school seniors. Leaving primary school to go to college or off to other adventures is a big shift in their normal routine. Sometimes these big shifts in our life help us to see things through new eyes and help us grow in our faith. Any time we see through new eyes, we have the chance to grow. This can even be very small simple things where we see God in our lives where we didn't see it before or when some thing reminds us that God is with us. Those are called God Winks!

**What is a GOD WINK?:**  
 When an event or personal experience or some thing reminds you of God's divine presence in your life.



**SCRIPTURES:**

**At once they knew who he was.** -Luke 24:31  
**The Lord has risen indeed!** -Luke 24:34

**BIBLE BACKGROUND (Luke 24:13-35):**



On the first Easter Sunday, two followers of Jesus left Jerusalem to walk to the town of Emmaus. Jesus joined them as they walked along the road, but they did not recognize him! As the men talked with Jesus, they shared their sadness over Jesus' death, and explained how he had been killed. The two men even told Jesus about the women going to the garden and being greeted by the angel. Still the

men did not believe, so Jesus began to teach them all that the prophets had said about the coming of a Messiah. When they reached Emmaus, the men invited Jesus to stay with them. At the table, Jesus blessed the bread, broke it, and gave it to them. Suddenly they knew who he was! At that moment, he left them. They were overjoyed at having seen the Lord, and left immediately for Jerusalem to tell the other disciples the wonderful news.

On that road to Emmaus, were the disciples so focused on the past, on what Jesus was, what he had been, that they failed to see what he had become, what he had changed into? There are multiple stories of the followers, men and women, failing to recognize the post-resurrection Jesus. What was so different about him that no one realized it was him? Was their failure to see Jesus about him, or was it about them?

Were they so afraid that they couldn't even see the NEW life in front of them? How are we like the disciples, so afraid of changes, in ourselves, in our communities that we fail to recognize the potential for new life in front of us? It will look different, but different doesn't mean bad.

**Different can be good. Different can be life affirming. Different can be just what we need.**

**ACTIVITIES:**

**Family Discussion:**

1. What grade are you moving up to?
2. Is there anything that scares you or makes you a little nervous about this change?
3. How does your faith in God help you with changes in your life?
4. Have you ever had a moment where you were reminded that God was present?

**Take a "God Wink" Walk:**

Next time you take a walk with your family, try to notice little things around you. The colors of the grass, dirt, path or houses along your way, the delicate movement of an insect or butterfly, the smell of the air and the sounds of birds or people or silence. Look for people helping. What things did you notice that you hadn't before? Where did you see God?

**Draw Self Portrait:**

Draw a self portrait. What has changed about your appearance over the last year? How have you grown. Where do you see God in you?

**Complete Word Search:**

Attached on next page.

**PRAYER:**

Dear God of Vision,  
 Open our EYES  
 that we may recognize you,  
 open our HEARTS  
 that we may worship you,  
 open our MINDS  
 that we may learn your teachings,  
 open our HANDS  
 that we may serve you.

*Let's pray the Lord's Prayer together:*  
 Our Creator,  
 who art in heaven, hallowed be  
 Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will  
 be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread  
 and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive  
 those who trespass against us. Lead us not  
 into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
 For Thine is the kingdom and the  
 power and the glory forever.

**Amen**

# On the Road to Emmaus

Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.  
Luke 24:31a (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 24:13-35 (NIV).



W X Q T T I Z H E G H W Z O R  
V O D H L I F G J S E C R O E  
Q P E A Y N I Q I H Y Q T G U  
C E P N A B J L X D E I A T X  
T N Y K D R O I E E S L Y U H  
J E I S E O Z K F I L C K G R  
I D S V F A L L V I G R R J X  
B P K T T A H T V K U U S K E  
D E R W W B R E A D N C U F I  
U S L O C L E O P A S I F V E  
O T D I P H F V S C M F F I A  
W T I M E H I C J I O I E C D  
J M S M C V E Y K J S E R Z G  
E M M A U S E T Y L E D P C O  
J V K V I D K H J E S U S R Z

WALKED  
MOSES  
THANKS  
CLEOPAS

JESUS  
BREAD  
FOOLISH  
OPENED

SUFFER  
BELIEVE  
PROPHET  
VILLAGE

CRUCIFIED  
VISITOR  
EYES  
EMMAUS