



Stuff They Didn't Teach Me In Sunday School



Episode 134 - Time to Go to School (Luke 23:50-56; 24)

The Dissenter

Joseph of Arimathea was a respected member of the Jewish ruling council (Mark 15:43). Each Gospel writer points out that he was a disciple of Jesus. So why isn't Joseph mentioned in Jesus' trial before the Jewish high court? Either the high priest refused to notify Joseph about the trial or Joseph cast an unrecorded vote—either dissenting from the majority decision or abstaining from voting.

- What risks did Joseph take in coming forward to bury Jesus?
- How do you find courage to speak up when you are in the minority on a hotly contested issue?

Unreliable Witnesses

God chose women to be the first to hear news of Jesus' resurrection. Luke's account of the disciples' reaction to their testimony clearly shows the prevailing attitude of the time, "but these words seemed to them an idle tale."

- How did their own skeptical reaction to first hearing of Jesus' resurrection help prepare the apostles for the reactions they would face when they began spreading the Good News?
- What are some good ways to respond to skepticism when you share your faith with others?

Two Men on a Road

The Passover was finished and two of Jesus' followers thought it best to "get out of Dodge" and head north to the safer region of Galilee. Jesus first lets them spill their guts and share their shattered dreams. Then He explains why it all had to go down that way before revealing Himself to them.

- Describe a time you were too overwhelmed with fear, disappointment or grief to hear anything good.
- Why do we need to let someone tell their whole story before we can give them our good news?

The Eleven

The disciples didn't believe the women, but they did believe Peter and the two disciples returning from Emmaus. Now it was time for Jesus to give them a lesson about the Old Testament. He knew it wouldn't be enough to show them He was risen; He had to teach them why He had to die in the first place.

- Why is it important for us to understand why Jesus suffered and died?
- What benefits can we get from studying the Old Testament?