The Disciples on the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13–35): Discussion Questions

The Scripture passage you listened to about the disciples on the road to Emmaus has a rich Eucharistic dimension. It helps us to answer the question, What is the Eucharist? Use the following questions to discuss the meaning of the Scripture passage.

1. In this Scripture account, the disciples of Jesus on the road to Emmaus face a challenge to their faith. How would you describe their situation?

2. What is the significance of the disciples’ inability to recognize Jesus when he begins walking with them?

3. How does Jesus help the disciples to remember all that he had taught them? How does this relate to the Eucharist?

4. Like catechumens preparing for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist, the Emmaus disciples are on a journey. What is the nature of their journey?
5. What do the disciples do or say that helps them to experience the Risen Christ? Why is this a significant moment of grace?

6. When Jesus takes bread, blesses, breaks, and gives it to the disciples, they recognize him “in the breaking of the bread” (Luke 24:35). Would this action of Jesus have been familiar to the disciples? When might they have experienced something like this before?

7. What are the disciples compelled to do after recognizing Jesus and “taking him in” in the Eucharistic Bread?

8. Who took the initiative in moving the disciples toward an experience of the Risen Christ?
9. When Jesus “disappears,” where does he go? How does this correlate to the celebration of the Eucharist?

10. If you were going to write a continuation of this story, how would you depict the disciples of Emmaus living their lives after this experience? Does the Scripture passage give any clues?