

A Gospel-Centered Church: Why?

Luke 24:13-32

The importance of being centered

Luke 24:13-32: The greatest Bible study ever

- “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?”

- Jesus is saying this is what the Old Testament Scriptures are about: His suffering and glory. It’s about Him. Even if you can’t see it at first.
 - And it’s easy to see this is what the New Testament is about also!

The Bible is Christ-centered. Or we could say Gospel-Centered. What does that mean?

- The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the main message, the point of the Bible. (John 5:39-40)

- Also, Christ is the protagonist, and his death and resurrection are the climax of the story. (Matthew 26:53-54, 5:17-20)

1. New Life conviction: Christians need the gospel, too! (1 John 3:19–20, 2 Peter 1:8-9, Gal. 3:1–4)

2. But unfortunately we can be centered on other things...

3. Finally, what Christ-centered or Gospel-centered *doesn't* mean

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. Read Luke 24:13-32.
 - a. Jesus could have said the Old Testament Scriptures were about Israel, or God’s salvation. These answers would sorta make sense. So why was Jesus’ answer so surprising? (Admittedly, it helps to be familiar with the Old Testament for this question.)

 - b. Why would this conversation result in a burning heart? (Luke 24:32)

2. Why is it important for a Christian to be centered on the Gospel of Christ? Consider an alternative center—or no center at all.

3. “Christians need the gospel, too.” Explain how this is true. See 1 John 3:19–20, 2 Peter 1:8-9, Gal. 3:1–4.