

And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. **Luke 24:27**

3. For Us, Not To Us
- The NRABV 2
Introduction

*Without Context.

TODAY'S VERSES:

Luke 24:27

Hebrews 11:1

John 14:1

2 Timothy 3:15-17

John 5:39-40

Psalm 23:5

Jeremiah 29:11

Psalm 46:10

Luke 24:20-23

RECAP & DISCUSSION STARTERS:

Today we re-start a series addressing how Christians and non-Christians alike misinterpret Scripture by reading verses out of context. Many of our issues with the Bible stem from cultural misunderstanding rather than textual problems. There are 4 foundational principles we must understand:

- 1. Faith (pistis) means trust based on evidence, not blind belief.
- 2. The Bible is a library of 66 books written over 2,000 years by 40+ authors in different genres, not a single book with uniform style.
- Scripture was written "for us" (universal application) but not "to us" (not in our language/culture), requiring understanding of original context.
- The entire Bible's storyline points to Jesus, as demonstrated when Christ explained to the Emmaus disciples how all Scripture testified about Him.

Proper Biblical interpretation requires reading the Scriptures in context, understanding historical setting, and seeing how each verse fits within the larger redemptive narrative.

- Biblical faith is trust based on evidence, not belief despite lack of evidence. How do you distinguish between "reasonable faith" and wishful thinking in your own belief systems?
- What areas of life do you operate with "apprehensive knowledge" (knowing enough to trust) rather than comprehensive (a full understanding)? When is this appropriate versus dangerous?
- How does viewing the Bible as a diverse library rather than a single book change your approach to difficult passages?
- How do we determine which Biblical principles are universal versus culturally/historically specific? Where do we draw those lines?
- What preconceived ideas about life, success, or spirituality might prevent us from seeing larger truths? How do our expectations shape what we're able to perceive?
- Is there value in finding personal meaning in texts beyond their original intent (Jeremiah 29:11), or does this always lead to distortion?
- How can we balance scholarly expertise with personal spiritual insight?