Home to Jesus (Chapter 9 on Finding Our Way Home)

Mark R. McMinn, George Fox University

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Abstract
Excerpt: "Like so many, I was raised in a religious home—praying before meals, attending Sunday services, seeking to follow God's will for my life. I remember getting two Christmas presents in ninth grade—a new pair of skis and a new Bible. Honestly, I was more thrilled with the Bible than with the skis (though both gifts made me ecstatic about my generous parents for a few days). I remember wondering in those youthful years why anyone would choose a life apart from Jesus. As I grew toward adulthood I began to understand their reasons. The faith I had loved as a child began to feel cumbersome, restrictive, and onerous. Still, I held on even as I noticed many of my church friends slipping away, leaving the faith behind as they negotiated the new challenges of love, work, and personal identity. I wondered where their lives were leading as I oscillated between envy for their freedom and sadness for their waywardness."

Comments

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When the Crucifixion was over Mary went home. The Passover came, and Mary and Cleopas observed it like good Jews. When Jesus began to open the Scriptures to Cleopas and Mary, He initiated the first of three openings that are mentioned in this chapter. He opened the Scriptures, He opened their eyes, and He opened their understanding. These are so significant that they would make an outline for a study all by themselves. Jesus had taught them on the way. And then, as He sat with them and broke bread with them in their home, "their eyes were opened, and they recognized him." This is as true today as it was then. If you will open the Scriptures, God will open your eyes by means of His Holy Spirit so you will recognize Jesus. Share Tweet Home Stories. 9 Ways to Grow in Your Faith. The Bible lists nine fruits of the Spirit. Each one can help us grow in our relationship with God. This article is part 3 of a 6-week Summer Soul Refresher series from BGEA. When we accept Jesus Christ as our Savior, the Bible says we receive supernatural help from the Holy Spirit. Because of that help, we can become more like Jesus, showing nine key characteristics—the fruits of the Spirit—in our daily lives. 1. Love. If you find yourself focusing on negatives, redirect your thoughts to Jesus and the promise of heaven. Watch the video, Heaven. If Christ followers are called to be joyful, why are some Christians so grumpy?