

EMMAUS

Luke 24:13-16

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.”

There are lots of parallels between life at the moment and the road to Emmaus. We are now walking road to Emmaus, on a road which is fearful and unsettled. During times of anxiety, such as we now find ourselves, we have so much to process and try to understand, we need to talk to each other, and share thoughts, just as the two disciples did as they walked the road. This is not so easy in these days of physical distancing, even with the phone and internet. Never forget though, God is with us in this.

Just as Christ walked alongside the disciples and opened up the scriptures to help them, Christ walks alongside us also, and scripture can help us unfold and understand the complex, fast moving developments that we find ourselves facing. Like us, the disciples on the road to Emmaus struggled to comprehend what was happening to them, times had changed so suddenly, all that they had begun to hold true about Jesus had suddenly evaporated, but even before they realised it, they found their friend and Lord alongside them, helping them understand.

One day we will reach our Emmaus and break bread with each other and our friend, the Lord. But in the meantime, whilst we might be physically separated from so many we are still spiritually connected with Christ and each other as we journey along the way. This is important because our spiritual self is still with us and it's 'that aspect of our humanity that refers to the way we seek and express meaning and purpose, and experience our connectedness to the moment, to self, to others, to nature, and to the significant or sacred'. Christina Puchalski et al.(2009)

“The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow, a light has shone.” (Isaiah 9:1)

