

Wednesday Reflection

Luke 24:13-32

¹³ Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles^[a] from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶ but they were kept from recognizing him.

¹⁷ He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸ One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

¹⁹ "What things?" he asked.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰ The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹ but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²² In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³ but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴ Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

²⁵ He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

²⁸ As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³² They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

What is the topic of conversation at the moment? What dominates the news and conversation in the street?

What was the topic of conversation 2 months ago and 2 years ago?

The answers are Coronavirus; flooding and Brexit.

In the light of the current situation many have forgotten the flooding – but not those who are now trying to pick up the pieces of the lives from having seriously damaged houses and businesses only to face the current crisis before the former is addressed.

It is so easy to get into one topic of conversation, often led by the media, and miss the rest of what is going on.

What was the conversation on the lips of people in Jerusalem nearly 2000 years ago? "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

"Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

A conversation started about Jesus, and those who thought they knew what they were talking about heard another side of the story; the truth of the story: the story from God's perspective; the long-term plan not the short term "disaster".

In daily life it is so easy to see a situation from just one side of an event and in so doing miss the fuller picture. I know I have reacted at times to a situation when I only knew part of a story and in so doing may have reacted in a different way to how I would have if fully informed.

When we meet a person and gradually get to know them, we do not know the full story of their life. There is only one who knows the full picture.

He is the one who knows the full story of your life, and in spite of that, still loves you. Take time this week to once again sit with the Scriptures and allow God to bring to your mind new truths for yourself and your personal journey, hear his message for you.

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

May your heart be warmed in these days and you may find you have a new topic of conversation to share with others; the Good News of God at work in your life.