

Covenant Life

- Our next Gathering is in two weeks on May 7th at 3pm. While we normally meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, we are moving our first meeting in May to the first Sunday to allow more time with our mothers on May 14th.
- There is more content on our [Jubilee web page](#). Please review and let us know what the Holy Spirit is speaking through you to us [here](#).
- If you were unable to attend our last prayer meeting, you can listen to the audio [here](#), read the Word Gift summary [here](#), and the transcript [here](#).
- Your ongoing financial support to the Community is sincerely appreciated. Please donate online [here](#) or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, Tx 75222.

Those that are in a pastoral care and/or spiritual direction relationship know the approach of entering into biblical stories since directors encourage us to place ourselves into the Bible stories that we read. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, individually and collectively, reveal themselves to us as we imagine ourselves as different characters and pray through the story. Some stories such as the Prodigal Son and the Road to Emmaus are particularly powerful. Today, in the [Gospel](#), we are treated to Jesus revealing Himself to two disciples on their journey to Emmaus. There is much we can learn as we place ourselves into this story.

"Jesus himself drew near and walked with them" as He does with each of us every day. God so loves us that He is ever present to us. He is initiating a relationship and drawing near to us, every moment of every day. As we ponder this truth, we come deeper into the understanding that it is not about us, we do not have to earn God's love. Jesus gave Himself up for us and draws near to us because of His love. We can rest in this unconditional love and allow it to reinvigorate our response every morning as we recommit to giving our whole lives to Him.

"...their eyes were prevented from recognizing him". Why was that? Why did Jesus not manifest His presence in a way that was glorious and could not be denied? We can and should ponder this and share our ideas with one another, but I offer that God created us with a free will and our short time on earth is about deciding our future. God created us to be with Him eternally and He reveals

Himself to us, but He give us the choice to follow Him or not. Just as Elijah learned that God did not speak through powerful winds or fire but in a whisper, we too need to find our own path to hearing God. He is ever present and continuously drawing near but our human nature makes it difficult, but not impossible, to recognize Him. This is our life's journey...to develop ears that can hear Him, eyes that can see Him, and a heart that can recognize Him! This is one of the blessings of the Charismatic Renewal, that we become aware of the power of His Holy Spirit to enable us to make this connection. This is one of the blessings of covenant community, that we have committed sisters and brothers who will journey with us, encourage and support us, as we journey together.

"...he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures." This is the blessing of saying Yes. When we recognize His presence, when we allow our eyes to be opened, Jesus will reveal Himself to us in a personal way. And the beauty of this is that it is not a one-time revelation. Jesus, through the power of His Holy Spirit, will reveal Himself ever deeper each time we allow. Jesus was always about Him Father's will. This is what Jesus wants for us too...to be about our Father's will. Jesus will reveal that to us as we let go and let Him. This is the power of the [Surrender Novena](#). As we draw close, Jesus reveals the Father's will, as we surrender to Him, He works in and through us.

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" This is what it is all about...to be set on fire through a personal encounter with Jesus Christ. This was what animated Peter in the [First Reading](#) to stand up and raise his voice and proclaim Jesus. This is what set the disciples running back to Jerusalem to share that Jesus is alive! This is our experience, and we pray that we never take this encounter, this revelation for granted but retain the zeal of telling everyone we meet about our Lord Jesus Christ and how He transformed our lives!

Let us pray, *"Jesus, come to me today as You came to Your disciples on the road to Emmaus. Reveal Yourself to me and show me Your perfect will for my life today. How can I respond to the great gift that You gave me of life on high with You?"*

Lead those into my life today whom You would have me witness to and give me the courage to share with them and pray with them. I surrender to You and want You to take care of all my personal challenges. I love You Jesus and give myself totally to You! Amen."

God Bless,
David