

## The Path of Life

**"...Jesus himself drew near and walked with them..."**

**Luke 24:15**

The greatest thing that the Road to Emmaus teaches us is that Jesus walks with us. We may not always recognize Him, but rest assured He is always there.

We are all given a life to live, a story to tell; though the stories and the endings may be different the path is the same. We may stray from time to time, we might even try to run the opposite direction or deviate some way to try to find our own path; but there is only one path.

**"Let's go and walk together." Pope Francis**

The path is not a smooth one, though at times it can seem like it. It's full of hills and turns, potholes and bumps. It can feel like a jungle, it can be icy and treacherous; one thing we know for sure it won't be easy. But Jesus has paved the road for us, not in cement or paving stones, but with his death on the cross. By dying for our sins Jesus has paved our way to eternal life. By the cross He shows us the way on the path of life. So often we put blinders on, because we do not wish to see or hear about what needs to be changed in our lives.

**"You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence." Acts 2: 28**

**"Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up..." 1 Thessalonians 5:11**

Just as Jesus has paved the way for us, so we are called to help each other along the path. We follow the steps of Jesus, in the ways of His words, the ways that He forgives, and in His willingness to give everything He has for us. Too many times we look only to ourselves and not to the needs of others, and in doing so we are in a way condemning them. When we refuse to help our fellow man along the path, it's as if to say, I don't care if you make it or not. I'll live my life and you live yours. Or you don't pray the way that I pray, therefore you aren't praying the right way. This is not the way of Christ.

**"As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." John 13:34**

We are not here to judge, condemn or walk the path alone. We are called, created and destined to walk it together. So let's make the most of our life by giving each other all we've got. We are called to be Jesus, just as others are called to be Jesus to us.

**"Were not our hearts burning within us..." Luke 24: 32**

Do our hearts not burn for each other, for God is within all of us...  
Do our ears turn from those who are crying and walking beside us...  
Do we ache for each other in our sufferings and rejoice with joyful exaltation at the triumphs and joys of life...Do we walk the path of life or deviate to the path of death?

*Jesus,*

***Help me to be present to those I walk with today.***

***Guide me to aid all whom I encounter on this road.***

***Teach me to assist as You would do.***

***Reassure me that I am not alone, that as I walk I walk with all on this road.***

***Along the way may I meet despair with hope of a new tomorrow, failure with the success of learning from mistakes, darkness with the light of Your love that burns in my heart and the hearts of all those I***

***walk with.***

***Amen.***