

Walk with Jesus

Sometimes ago, my mother said to me, while we were walking to a restaurant. She said, when I see you from the back, you walk just like your father walks. I didn't know whether that was a compliment or critique?

I didn't know whether I should be happy about it or be upset about the way my mother was comparing me to my father?

And later on, I thought about the words that my mother said to me. I walk like my father walks.

How do I walk? Does that mean I walk physically the same way that my father walks, or does that mean I have walked the way of life that is similar to his?

I thought that I lived a fairly different life to him. I lived a life of clergy, and he lived a fairly hard life from his childhood. I said to myself, "How do I walk in life? How do I live my life?"

How about yourself? How do you walk?"

We have a story of two disciples walking the road to Emmaus. After Jesus had died on the cross and was buried in the tomb, they were in despair and started to walk to Emmaus to find their new life.

They were talking about what happened to Jesus on the road yet not knowing that he was resurrected, and they forgot what he said to them that he was going to Galilee to meet them.

They were walking to Emmaus, which is west, while Jesus was heading to Jerusalem, Galilee which was north.

Their walking and talking reveal a profound sense of despair and faithlessness. They couldn't believe the resurrection of Jesus, and they started to walk their way to Emmaus to find their own life.

On this journey to Emmaus, Jesus joined them while they were walking and conversing.

Initially, they couldn't recognize him. How could they not recognize him when they were talking to him next to each other?

According to Mark 16:12-13, Jesus appeared to the disciples, and they couldn't recognise him because he appeared to them in different forms, and they couldn't recognize him.

Mark doesn't tell us what kind of form he took, but he appeared to them in a different form, met with them, and walked with them. Even though they didn't know he was there, Jesus was with them and journeyed with them.

From my experience and practical context interpretation, Jesus manifests in various forms to us. He appears as a form of mother and father, a confidant to talk to, a minister, a stranger on the road, or a spirit that we don't anticipate but find comfort, guidance, and companionship in.

We may not recognize him, but that doesn't mean he's absent from our lives. His presence is with us. but he chooses to come to us in different forms.

Our passage continues to talk about in ways that he comes to us. From verse 30, in chapter 24, there are two occasions that Jesus revealed himself to the disciples, and they encountered Jesus and recognised him.

In verse 30, when Jesus shared a meal with them, their eyes were opened, and they recognised him.

When Jesus shared bread and wine with them, when Jesus lifted his hands to break bread, then they saw his scars on his wrist. The proof of the resurrection.

And another occasion is that through the word, the Scripture, they recognised him, and their hearts were burning.

They knew Jesus very well, they knew what he did and all that. But they couldn't believe him, yet Jesus appeared to them and revealed to them and showed them the proof of his resurrection and they believed.

Last week, Jesus showed his scars, his hands, and his feet to Thomas, whom we call doubting Thomas. This week, Jesus showed his proof of resurrection to his two disciples on the Emmaus Road.

These three disciples, Thomas and two disciples, couldn't believe Jesus; they were looking for signs. And Jesus showed it to them. So that they could believe the real resurrection story on their road to despair, Emmaus.

Through their encounter with Jesus, they not only believed in him but experienced the resurrection moment in their lives. And they turned around their way to Jerusalem, from Galilee, to witness Jesus to other disciples and others.

We might call it the Emmaus moment.

Emmaus moment is their faith walk; this is how they described their meeting with Jesus, showing how their lives had been changed.

Also, this journey tells us how to get to know Christ, how we might recognise him, and how we might encounter him.

He doesn't come to us in a dramatic way always, but most of the time, he comes to us in our conversation, in our ordinary walk, in our mealtime, in our ordinary moment of life. Emmaus moment.

We do meet God in the words of God, in prayer, in worship, and in our conversation with him in ordinary days of life, in our relationship with others.

Sometimes, whether we realize it or not, or in our ups and down, in our mess and in our joy, He joins us in our life matters.

From the Bible, we meet God through the people in the Bible.

Abraham, Isaac, and Moses and more, we hear stories of unnumbered people who have been with God, who have met God.

How their lives have changed, how God worked in their lives. How God called them and loved them and forgave them.

In fact, we all have met Christ through the word of God; we are meeting with Him every day, in our every worship, in our everyday prayer.

For me, I have met God, known God through the scripture, and know Him more and more. How He forgives people, how He speaks to me, how much He loves me.

I have learnt of His love through my parents, how to serve, how to pray when time is favourable and unfavourable.

Often God speaks to me through the hymns that I hear and sing.

Through his word and through the signs, and different forms, it is God who opens our eyes to discover; he is the one who opens our ears to hear his call and our minds to understand his word.

These two disciples' stories are not much different from your story and my story.

Through these common experiences, the Emmaus moment, God continues to speak to us, continues to join us in our conversation and in our mealtime, and in our gathering, he comes to meet us.

In the breaking of bread, in our grief, in our joy, in our trouble, when we don't know what to pray, Christ has promised us to be with us.

The Spirit makes our hearts burn, making us alive like two disciples on the road to Emmaus. Risen Christ to be with us. That is the promise of the resurrection.

He came to us to reveal himself to us from his death, so that we may believe in him and his resurrection.

The word of my mother to me, "how do I walk," reminds me to think that
What kind of walk I should walk, what kind of life I should live?

Perhaps I can't help how I walk down a street with my curved back, but I want to be intentional about how I walk through life.

Through life, I want to walk joyfully, whatever days that I have.

I want to walk with humility.

I want to walk with love.

I want to walk with a grateful heart.

And I want to walk with God.

I don't know whether that walk is similar to my father's, but this is how I make that journey significant, and that is how I have decided to walk through life.

I encourage you not to see how I walk, but how I walk through life.

Watch me and join me on this journey and continue to walk with the walk that you have chosen to walk.

Christ is with you now. Christ is with me. In our Emmaus moment, that is probably our reason to celebrate Easter, Christ's resurrection, and our resurrected life now. Amen.