

## **Weekly Rhythm**

[Rhythm of Worship](http://www.jamesnicolson.co.za)

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### **Engaging with the weekly Lectionary Readings - Comment and Questions**

Readings, with thanks to www.gbod.org

#### **Acts 2:14a, 36-41.**

Peter declares God had made the risen Jesus both Lord and Christ. The people respond, "What must we do?" "Repent and be baptized."

#### **Psalm response: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19.**

"Then I called on the name of the LORD: 'O LORD, I pray, save my life!'"

#### **1 Peter 1:17-23.**

How to live as the baptized: in reverent fear of God, and with deep affection for one another from the heart.

#### **Luke 24:13-35.**

The road to Emmaus. Jesus reminds two dispirited followers of all they have seen and heard, its grounding in Scripture, and what next steps they can take to live this way now. They "get it" (and recognize him) only when he breaks the bread.

"That very same day a group of them were on their way into a common future, which lay just ahead, beyond what they could see.

As they walked into the future, they talked about all the happenings among them. As they talked with one another GOD joined them and moved with them.

But something kept them from seeing and understanding what was REALLY happening.

So, God entered into their hearts and asked: WHAT IS IT THAT TROUBLES YOU?

WHAT ARE YOU WONDERING ABOUT? WHAT QUESTIONS UNSETTLE YOU?

The group stopped, full of fear and anxiety, and began to reflect, saying:

We thought it would be simpler.

We thought our choices would be clearer.

We thought our values and priorities would be more evident.

We thought there would be more uniformity.

We thought we would agree more easily on basic issues.

We thought our resources were more extensive.

We thought God would lead us more directly.

We thought that doubts, conflicts, and confusion would lessen.

We thought that our common charism would ensure a common vision.

We had hoped our future would be uncomplicated.

We had hoped things would not be so messy.

We had hoped our experiences would confirm what we knew, not change it again.

We had hoped our familiar theories would still fit.

We had hoped.

We had hoped.

And now, some among us are saying that things are not as we first imagined them to be.

Now some are saying that the future continues to challenge us in different ways: IS THIS OF GOD?

And God said: How slow you are as a group. How hard it is for you to trust. Have I not promised from the beginning to be with you, to sustain you, and to continually reveal my

plans to hearts that are OPEN? Have I not promised you more than you can ask or imagine?

And God spent time going over the history of the people gathered, and the ways that mystery continues to be revealed. God raised up many ordinary events and interactions and showed the people gathered God's own way of being with them.

By the time the people had begun to understand the depth, the breadth, and height of the love of God for them, they were already one step further into the future.

They wondered if they could sustain that kind of hope. It felt as if God was not going to be present as clearly as they had thought. They invited God to remain with them and to continue to help them notice, celebrate and be open to the ongoing revelation – to walk through those doors into an unknown future.

And God chose to stay with the people.

God, and the people gathered, recognized the mystery at work among them, and they grew more confident and able to share it with others who needed to know if God's love could be counted on. They moved into their lives, trusting that what God has in store will be created together and will include more than the people could ever ask or imagine."

Source: [Voice](#) of Renewal Emmaus Prayer Service

**Something to think about:**

How does this reflection help you enter the Road to Emmaus story?

How is God speaking to you in this story?