Daily Prayer & Encouragement – John Berridge

**13th November**

**Luke 24 verses 19-35. (The Message)**

*"Jesus came up and walked along with them. But they were not able to recognise him." (vs. 15/16). "At that moment, open-eyed, wide eyed they recognised him." (v.31).*

For much of this difficult year I'm sure that all of us have had disappointments in respect of our hopes, dreams and plans being crushed. In fact, probably one of the most common things we have in common is disappointment - but disappointment doesn't have to lead to discouragement.

I wonder what disappointments we've had. As a family we were disappointed that we couldn't hold our traditional Easter egg hunt. But, much to our grandsons surprise we did have an egg hunt in early September!

In the well known story shared in the above verses "two of them" - followers of Jesus - were walking/talking about and reflecting on the events of the past few days. They'd hoped, they'd anticipated - but they were disappointed, disillusioned - discouraged. They had almost given up hope and were heading back home. BUT THEN Jesus showed up and EVERYTHING changed!!

He opened up the Scriptures and, as he did so, "their eyes were opened" to the truth. How wonderful! His words brought comfort, reassurance.

He opened up his hands as he 'broke bread with them' and, as he did so, their eyes were opened to who this man was - the Saviour of the world. How wonderful!

Their response was wonderful too. They returned to Jerusalem with THE Good News - "it's really happened - the Master HAS been raised up!". From discouragement to declaration.

Dear friends. How is it with us right now? Can I lovingly suggest we turn our eyes away from our disappointments and 'turn our eyes upon Jesus, look full into his wonderful face- - and I believe from personal experience that 'the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace'.

***PRAYER***

*Our Loving Heavenly Father, I call upon Your Name. Please help me to keep my eyes above the waves. Because I am Yours and You are mine. Thank You Lord. Amen.*