

Monday -

“Loving ourselves through the process of owning our own story
is the bravest thing we’ll ever do....

We must dare to show up and let ourselves be seen.”

~Brene Brown. *Daring Greatly: How the Courage to be Vulnerable Transforms the
Way We Live, Love, Parent, and Lead*

Tuesday -

“Jesus shows up as He needs to be seen.”

~Robert Schreiter. *Reconciliation: Spirituality and Strategies*

“Emmaus is....”

Where is Emmaus, anyway?

Not far from here,
but definitely *not* here.

Emmaus is a place you go to find answers -- *all* the answers you’ll ever need.

Emmaus is a place where we hope
it all finally makes sense,
and getting there means we’ll be
_____ enough,
_____ enough,
_____ enough,
_____ enough.

The way there can be steep,
but it makes us look and feel busy --
and being busy feels productive,
and being productive looks decisive,
and decisive looks good on disciples.

Maybe Emmaus is a place of temporary comfort --
a really hard workout,
a really great book,
a blank canvas,

a lit stage --
that we wish we could make a more permanent home.

Emmaus -- not always a place on a map,
but always a place within reach.

It's a way to avoid being "here",
and show up in a place
or a story
or as someone
we accept more easily.

So where is Emmaus, you ask?
Where *isn't* Emmaus?

Emmaus can be anywhere --
Anywhere to avoid the ache
of all of the questions we face "here",
like _____,
like _____,
like _____ --
when "here" is not where you want to be.

Is your Emmaus
a happier past you rehearse and long for?

Is your Emmaus
a heroic future you invent for yourself?

Your Emmaus -- it's somewhere:
That place we *think* we need to get to
in order to be ready enough for whatever comes next.

Wednesday -

"*Tikkun olam* is something each of us does differently. It is an expression of the faith that it is no accident that we are here, in this time and place, with these gifts and capacities, and this opportunity to make a positive difference in the world. We are here because there is a task that only we can fulfill."

~Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, *To Heal a Fractured World: The Ethics of Responsibility*

Thursday -

"I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted,
and every hill and mountain shall be made low,
the rough places will be made plain,
and the crooked places will be made straight;
'and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed
and all flesh shall see it together.'

With this faith, we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope."

~Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., speech from 1963 March on Washington
<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/mlkihadream.htm>