ETH WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

JANUARY 2024 WEEK TWO

The Joy of New Beginnings

What We Like About New Beginnings

Everyone loves to start over and refresh. Each day welcomes a host of blessings and new beginnings at work, home or play. The two men on the road to Emmaus received a fresh start when they finally recognized the Risen Christ! Their grief immediately turned into gladness. The relationship had not ended but was now on a new level!

With Endings Come New Beginnings

Stop looking at your endings as all bad. Instead see them as crosswalks to new prospects full of blessing, possibilities, and fruitfulness. Remember, beginnings are great "Do-Overs" that give you a chance to wipe-the-slate-clean and start anew.

Luke 24:31-32

This Scripture passage is an example of the ending two of Jesus' disciples experienced immediately after His death. The finality of it all was so acute that they looked sad as they walked and talked on the road to Emmaus. Something had ended. A treasured relationship was over. They did not understand until later that with endings come new beginnings. Suddenly, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And at that moment he disappeared!

They said to each other, "Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?"

PRAYER

Lord help us to move through the endings we are facing to the new beginnings you have planned for us?