

## Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Easter

### May 12, 2009

**Scripture:** Acts 14:19-28; Psalm 145:10-13, 21; John 14:27-31

**Reflection:** Today's readings give us much food for our prayer: thoughts such as the cost of discipleship, the marvel at the perseverance of the travels of Paul and Barnabas, the psalm's reference to the goodness of God to all creatures, and then the Gospel's story of peace and love. What riches are here! How can these disparate ideas be bound together for this reflection on Resurrection hope?

It seems as though those words should be juxtaposed – hope of resurrection. When this is said aloud, however, we realize that resurrection hope is more accurate. As we continue to celebrate with our 'Alleluias' we know in our hearts that hope is only possible because, "He is risen as he said."

Paul, attacked and left for dead, stands up and continues to preach from city to city the message of God's great love for all: a love that brings deep peace when one believes. This love caused Paul to continue his preaching without fear as he spread the message of God's love for all. John stresses the importance of this love which casts out fear, "Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid." We recall Christ's words to his disciples, "Be not afraid." In today's world our worries and concerns are the ups and downs of the world's economy, war, and natural disasters. As Christians we must believe that all things and all people are in the hands of a loving, resurrected Lord.



**Suggested Action:** In today's stressful world let us repeat frequently: Be not afraid for God is truly present at all times and in all events and loves me deeply.

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