

Saturday 22nd February



Sharing joy and sorrow

*"I will weep when you are weeping
When you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through"*

The fourth verse of Richard Gillard's hymn speaks of the ups and downs in life's journey. Life's journey is full of highs and lows, joys and sorrows. It is a real privilege to walk with people through the highs of life, but the greater privilege is to walk with them through the darkness.

Walking through the darkness with someone creates a deep bond that is difficult to explain. Being with someone at the darkest point in their lives, seeing them at one of their worst moments, changes a relationship.

When Jesus met with Martha and Mary at the death of their brother, Lazarus, their relationship changed. Martha would finally show a great depth of understanding of who Jesus was, Mary would go on to anoint his feet. The relationship was also changed for Jesus. He was moved to weep for his friend, to raise him from the dead, but also to see all of them in a new light.

God of darkness and light
We thank you for all the blessing we have in our lives
For the joys and the celebrations
Help us to remember that even in the darkness you are there
You are our strength and comfort
Give us the courage to walk with others
Not only in the joys of life
But in the deepest sorrows
As you are with us
Amen