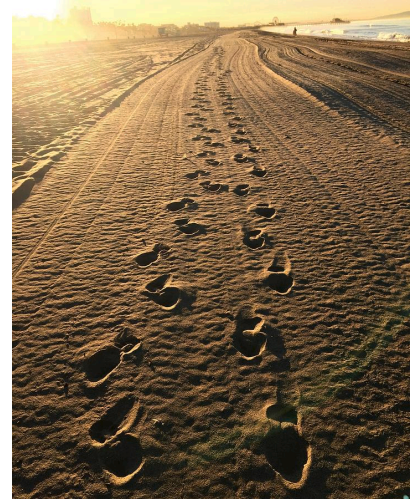


My Journey to Wisdom

*Once upon a time a child of happiness danced upon the land,
knew friendship with the earth and celebrated life
with her love of solitude and simple things.
She grew into a young woman,
whose vision of self was clouded,
clothed with the complexities of insecurity
and the necessity of leaving the hallowed womb of the quiet earth.
She walked into cities of strangers, straining her inner eye to catch
the slightest hint of the beauty that had energized her younger days
when she played upon the earth.
Days stretched into months and then years went by.
She slowly changed by going deeper, deeper, into her Center.
Never understanding why the desire to go deeper was there
but always knowing there was no other choice
than to follow at all costs.
Darkness sometimes loomed up large against her searching journey.
Risk and Truth became her companions.
She met Compassion
and then Wisdom came to greet her.
So close, at times, were these companions
that she wept for their intensity and her unworthiness.
Still, they walked with her,
and everywhere she went,
her companions reached out
and blessed the people of her life.
She could only kneel in gratitude,
offering her heart of praise to the Divine Companion
who had faithfully kept the kindling of love
burning in her heart.*



- Joyce Rupp

Reflection Questions:

1. Where have you been on your journey? What celebrations and challenges did you experience? How did you know when to change direction?
2. In what ways have you “danced upon the land” ?
3. When have you found yourself “clothed with the complexities of insecurity”?
4. How have the companions of “risk, truth, compassion, and wisdom” walked with you? What other gifts have you received?