

**Walking in Christ's Light**  
**Daily Prayer Journal**  
**November 24-29, 2008**

*Growing our souls is a partnership with Christ.  
To enable your soul's growth, use this material with Christ as your guide.*

**Monday: 11-24-08**

**Mark 13:24-37** ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=mark+13:24-37](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=mark+13:24-37))

**Prayer:** O God of gifts, quicken in a sense of humor bright enough to help me find my way in these tarnished times, and fruitful enough to be made the wine of hope, warming the hearts of those I love. Make me glad to be one of a kind, yet living one with a kind, called not to be more like others but more like myself, a guerrilla of grace, daring to be authentic, and more of a human-kind.

**Reflection:** There's a famous moment in Victor Hugo's *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* when a 15<sup>th</sup>-century archdeacon, upon his first encounter with a Gutenberg press, makes a grim prediction. "This will kill that," he says. "The book will kill the building." What he means is that one medium of communication will replace the other as the culture's primary focal point of life. Church architecture conveyed meaning to people; told them who they were, and instructed them what to believe. It was a powerful technology; but the book was a better one. As the archdeacon feared, the cathedral never quite recaptured its place. This will kill that; it's a stark formulation.

**Tuesday: 11-25-08**

**Isaiah 64:1-9** ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=isaiah+64:1-9](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=isaiah+64:1-9))

**Prayer:** O God of gifts, liberate me to share, without apology or arrogance, not only the gifts I have, but the gift I am.

**Reflection:** What are the "younger" up to? During "Take Your Kids To Work Day," *Newsweek* employees took a poll of trends:

- 9 watch *Dancing With The Stars*
- 6 watch pro wrestling
- 4 watch *Comedy Central*
- 2 watch *The Family Guy*
- 8 want to be president
- 10 play soccer
- 7 play hockey
- 13 play video games
- 2 play Guitar Hero
- All of them (yes ALL) have computers at home.

Anybody reading this who watched John Kennedy's inaugural on TV identifying with this?

**Wednesday: 11-26-08**

**Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19** ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+80:1-7;17-19](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+80:1-7;17-19))

**Prayer:** Lord of wondrous patience, the earth has risen again, emerging from darkness in a way it has never quite been before...and I with it, too...both alive with possibilities in fresh time. May I ask, what do you and me have in mind?

**Reflection:** A younger-than-me person confessed, "I don't love Lucy. Uncle Miltie make me want to cry Uncle...Long story short, I hate old TV comedy. Go ahead, call me an MTV-bread Philistine..." "When old jokes aren't cliché, they're worse. Once I watched *Road To Bali*, on TCM and Bob Hope cracked a joke about rumble seats. Rumble seats? I barely remember the DeLorean. Why laugh at stuff I can't remember. My grandkids won't laugh Jeff Foxworthy's "Red Neck" jokes. Fine with me." Just how does the past speak with the present to build the future?

**Thursday: 11-27-08**

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:1-9** ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=1+corinthians+1:1-9](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=1+corinthians+1:1-9))

**Prayer:** Oh such staggering Grace, nurture me, please, in newness. Set me free from the tyrannies of habit and complaining and blaming. Shake from me the dusty memories of too much success and comfort, pride and pretense; that, as if on the first day of creation, I may begin to know the miracle of life and humanity. Urge me to go on in faith to whatever is next in love.

**Reflection:** Trappist monks selling caramels on the Internet. A worship center using a video “countdown” to let the congregation know the service is about to begin. Solitary browsers finding a place to convert to Hinduism in cyberspace. Every religious group is having to reassess how to be who they are in the electronic culture. It’s as if all the tectonic plates the churches stand on are moving beneath them. What’s great is that the Gospel is still the same story...the story of hope and love. The church simply needs to tell it in the new media so that folks might hear it.

**Friday: 11-28-08**

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13:1-13 (In particular, vs.12)**

([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=1+corinthians+13:1-13](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=1+corinthians+13:1-13))

**Prayer:** O God, who out of nothing brought everything that is, out of what I am bring more of what I dream but haven’t dared. I would very much like to look, together with you, at who I am each day and call it good.

**Reflection:** Research shows that 7 of 10 teens attend church because they want to. Girls (72%) are more likely to attend church willingly than boys (63%). It seems that the main reason teens attend church is

**Saturday: 11-29-08**

**Mark 2:1-12** ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=mark+2:1-12](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=mark+2:1-12))

**Prayer:** O God of beginnings and re-starts, as your incredibly creative Spirit moved over the waters in the first day of creation, please move with me now. Help me begin again what need in me to begin. I realize that I tremble on the edge of maybe, you know, a tentative start. Remind me the you and the wonder lay at my fingertips.

**Reflection:** Did Jesus heal that paralyzed man in Mark’s story with a “poof” of magic; or, after recognizing the faith the paralyzed man and his four friends had in him, did Jesus simply remind the now healed man of all the reasons he had to get up and live life, rather than be paralyzed by it?