

Walking in Christ's Light
Daily Prayer Journal
February 22-27, 2010

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

Next Week's Sermon

Scripture: Luke 13:31-35 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=luke+13:31-35)

Theme: "Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special!"

Sermon: "Citizens of Where?"

Question: What can I do to share my Kingdom citizenship?

MONDAY **2-22-10**

Read: Luke 13:31-35 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=luke+13:31-35)

Prayer: Lord God, Creator of the Universe, forgive me when I get confused about who is God. I know You are God, but I like to think I am my own god someday. Guide me into a world beyond myself and my self interest. Teach me to look beyond today's headlines for eternal truth. Guide me in the path of solidarity with You and with the work of Your Kingdom. Speak to me of important and eternally meaningful work when I am tempted by the trivial. Thank You for not giving up on me. Amen.

Journal Reflection: Jesus is about the Father's mission. Herod will not scare him. The Pharisees will not divert him. Jesus own ego needs will not be victorious. Jesus is involved in an eternally important mission. When you follow Jesus, you also are doing decisive Kingdom work! What diverts you? Do specific images of what is right and wrong keep you from seeing God at work? Do ideas, theories, or ideology keep you from encountering God's mission for your life? Reflect today upon what Jesus wants you to do that is so important you could not stop it even if the President of the United States called and ask you to stop.

Resolve: I will follow Jesus Christ today and everyday!

TUESDAY **2-23-10**

Read: Genesis 15: 1-18 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=genesis+15:1-18)

Prayer: Thank You, Jesus, for the covenant of grace that You provide for me. Thank You for accepting me as a member of Your family. Thank You for providing for me with the cleansing forgiveness that I need. Thank You!! Amen

Journal Reflection: God promises Abraham and God delivers. Abraham struggles seeking to believe what seems to be unbelievable. (Does that sound familiar to you?) God reminds Abraham where creative power comes from. Abraham is ordered to look into the night sky and remember how mighty our God is. Next time you are struggling with doubt and negativity take God's suggestion and look up and look around you. Remember God's promise through Jesus Christ that you are a beloved child. The Creator of the Universe is your parent. God is watching over you and you will have all the strength in the universe to overcome whatever it is that you fear.

Resolve: The God who created the stars is the God who loves me.

WEDNESDAY **2-24-10**

Read: Philippians 3:17-4:1 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=philippians+3:17:4:1)

Prayer: Holy Spirit, thank You for giving me a passport to heaven. I celebrate each day my citizenship in God's Kingdom. I am grateful for my heritage as one of God's children. Holy Spirit, thank You, for giving me the power to live with my heavenly citizenship in this, my earthly home. Amen

Journal Reflection: The passport you hold as a citizen of heaven is precious. Other friends and relatives can get one. They don't even need to go to the County Clerk's office. A head bowed in humble prayer and acceptance of God's gift of grace brings them into God's kingdom. What good news!

Resolve: I will share God's passport to eternity with someone today.

THURSDAY 2-25-10

Read: Psalm 27 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+27)

Prayer: Eternal God, I praise You for being the foundation of my life. I praise You for providing me the opportunity to live without excessive fear. I praise You for giving me the strength to choose wisely. Thank You for all the blessings of Your protection, grace, love, mercy, and forgiveness each day. Amen.

Journal Reflection: The Psalmist writes in the midst of difficult days. An enemy army was encamped around him. Personal enemies were attacking him. The politics were wrong. The economics were dismal. Nothing was going right. The Psalmist; however, has a focus upon the Eternal God. Reread it again. Notice the emphasis upon God's power and protection. The Psalmist only wants to serve the Lord. Let the Psalmist words be your words today.

Resolve: No matter what happens in my life, Lord: I will praise You today!

FRIDAY 2-26-10

Read: I Peter 1: 13-25 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=i+peter+1:13-25)

Prayer: Holy Spirit, I am preparing my mind for action. Holiness seems so passive to me. I need to shift my thinking to the positive. Doing something good is holiness. Identifying with Christ is holiness. Loving even the ugly and unlovable is holiness. I am preparing my mind for holiness today, Lord. Grant to me the opportunity to grow in holiness today. Amen

Journal Reflection: So often we think of holiness as not doing something. If we don't dance, steal, smoke, drink, have sex, cheat, or lie, then we are holy. Peter challenges this paradigm. Holiness is identifying with Christ in all we say and do. Holiness is a choice of lifestyle we make. Holiness is action taken in Christ's name for Christ's sake with Christ's love in our hearts. Holiness is the way you build up Christ's Kingdom on this planet. Holiness is choosing to live beyond the normal while celebrating God's power in your life. Choose to be holy today!

Resolve: Holiness is what I long for today, Jesus.

SATURDAY 2-27-10

Read: Psalm 127 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+127)

Prayer: "O God, maker of everything and judge of all that you have made, from the dust of the earth you have formed us and from the dust of death you would raise us up. By the redemptive power of the cross, create in us clean hearts and put within us a new spirit that we may repent of our sins and lead lives worthy of your calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (*The United Methodist Hymnal*, "Ash Wednesday," #353)

Journal Reflection: Americans think they are safe because the oceans are wide and jets protect the sky. When a terrorist bomb goes off in America, we feel our protective shells compromised. We become anxious. We react out of fear with anger. Unfortunately, this scenario is part of all of us in this wonderful country because we place our security in the hands of government and geography. The true security for us is in God and God alone. If God is not the Lord of our lives and our country, then no army, navy, or air force will protect us from the enemy. Decide today what one thing you can do to bring God into first place in your life.

Resolve: I am secure in God and God alone.