

Walking in Christ's Light
Daily Prayer Journal
September 28-October 3, 2009

*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: Mark 10:2-16 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=mark+10:2-16)

Theme: God's covenant is with us and for us to serve the world

Sermon: "The Kingdom of God: A Covenant Community"

Question: How can I live out God's covenant with me?

MONDAY 9-28-09

Read: Psalm 31 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+31)

Prayer: Loving God, thank You for this moment of prayer when the environment around me and within me is positive. Thank you for building a wall around me and protecting me from the negative vibrations of this destructive world. Thank you for this moment of quiet moment of protected prayer where I can drink deep from the well of faith in a holy atmosphere. Walk with me, Gracious God, as I leave this time of prayer so that I may carry with me Your Peace and share it with all I meet today. Amen

Journal Reflection: The writer of this Psalm is stressed out! Everything seems to be closing in on him. Physical illness and friend's rejection all bring pain to him. He feels alone and abandoned by everyone but God. In the midst of crying out to God come spiritual insights for us to remember when we are in such a place of pain. Verse 15 is a statement of reality. Time is God's gift! God holds our lives in God's hand. Our God is a Rock upon whom we can stand! Our God is a strong fortress who will protect us. Reflect today on your life and the importance of acknowledging God's presence and power each day.

Resolve: Day by day and with each passing moment God gives me strength.

TUESDAY 9-29-09

Read: Mark 10:2-16 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=mark+10:2-16)

Prayer: Jesus, I ask you to teach me today to look at every form of life at each stage as something most precious to be preserved. Thank You, Jesus, that you've put life on planet Earth. Teach me to love and cherish all life. Especially teach me to celebrate every human being to whom You have given the gift of a mind that can imagine and think, a heart that can love, and a soul that can experience Your presence. Amen.

Journal Reflection: Jesus teaching here is a covenant reminder. Marriage is a covenant between two people and God. It is not to be severed lightly. Children are gifts of God's covenant. They are to be cherished in an environment of love. Reflect today upon the nature of your commitment to the important, God given covenants in your life. Reaffirm your commitments with your family and your church family! After all, we are commanded by Jesus to care for, protect, teach, and love God's children!

Resolve: I will be faithful to God's covenants today.

WEDNESDAY 9-30-09

Read: Psalm 26 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+26)

Prayer: Receive me, Holy Spirit, as someone who is discouraged today. And like the wind that comes unexpectedly to lift a tired bird, so come to me with a surge of hope and speak to my disconsolate soul: "Be still and know that I am God." Amen.

Journal Reflection: "I have walked in my integrity," writes the psalmist. What a wonderful reflection upon his life. He used God's time well! He has worshipped God, walked in faithfulness, stood on level ground, and spoken truth. Put yourself in the place of the psalmist. What a wonderful psalm to summarize your life after you are gone. Decide today that you will make life choices that will enable you to say, "I have walked in my integrity."

Resolve: God can count on me! I am faithful to God.

THURSDAY **10-1-09**

Read: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=hebrews+1:1-4; 2:5-12)

Prayer: Eternal and most Holy God, I humbly ask that You bless me and all my family. Keep us in the circle of Your love. Make Your face to shine upon us and be gracious unto us. Grant us peace in our going out and our coming in; in our lying down and our rising up; in our labor and in our leisure; in our laughter and in our tears. Bless us in this world and protect us until we are with You in the next world where we can stand before Jesus and experience Your full love, mercy, peace, and joy. Amen.

Journal Reflection: Jesus calls you sister or brother! Wow, what a statement. The Messiah of the Universe is your relative! You have a brother you can trust to be with you no matter what happens. You have a brother who will stand by you, teach you, and love you throughout eternity. Celebrate today the fact that Jesus is your beloved brother. Choose to spend your day today doing activities that will be applauded by your brother. Share Jesus love with someone today that does not know his or her family heritage. Help them know that Jesus is their brother too.

Resolve: I am a beloved child of God and Jesus faithful sibling.

FRIDAY **10-2-09**

Read: Job 1:1, 2:1-10 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=job+1:1; 2:1-10)

Prayer: Creating and Sustaining God, I thank You that You did not create me out of marble, glass, iron, or steel. But, You created me with a mind to think, a heart to love, and hands to achieve limitless possibilities. Continue to create me, Lord God. I want to be shaped by You into the very person You desire me to be. I am open to your touch, Jesus! Make of the lumber of my life a temple of praise and thanksgiving to You. Amen.

Journal Reflection: Job's life fell apart. Everything he owned was destroyed. His stock market crashed and he was left with nothing. His children were destroyed. His home went into foreclosure. He had to declare bankruptcy. Even his wife turned against him. Job argued with his friends and with God. In the midst of this tragic and horrible time of his life, Job grew in his relationship with God. Job was faithful to God. Job maintained an honest relationship with God. Job refused to reject God. And, God was a strong and faithful presence with Job. If you are in a tough "Job" place right now, talk with God, share with God, be angry with God, and take all your troubles to God! If you can remember being in a "Job" time, then look back to that difficult period of your life and give thanks for God's presence.

Resolve: I will remember today that God is faithful—all the time!

SATURDAY **10-3-09**

Read: Psalm 8 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+8)

Prayer: Creator God, thank You that I am so wonderfully made. I am an individual---unique and different from everyone else. You know me from the inside out. You know my deepest longings of my heart. Thank You for knowing me, loving me, and trusting me to do a part of Your work in this world. I am committed to being Your servant sharing your love, peace, hope, and joy! Grant me the power of Your Spirit to enable me to share appropriately. Amen

Journal Reflection: There are days when I do not feel "just a little lower than the angels." More likely, I feel lower than the insects. This psalm reminds us that God thinks more of us than we often do of ourselves. God wants to crown you with glory and honor! Celebrate life with God and God will bless you! Even in the midst of terrible suffering, God will bless you and carry you through! The victory over life and death is already yours through Christ Jesus! God's peace, joy, hope, and love are with you today. Accept God's gifts and then share them with someone you meet today.

Resolve: My life is committed to God and God alone.