

Walking in Christ's Light
Daily Prayer Journal
January 4-9, 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: Isaiah 43: 1-7 and Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

(www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=isaiah+43:1-7)

(www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=luke+3:15-17;21-22)

Theme: "Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now!"

Sermon: "Making A Difference"

Question: What can I do to make a difference in someone's life this year?

MONDAY 1-4-10

Read: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=luke+3:15-17;21-22)

Prayer: Lord, I have no reason to be a part of Your family except that You invited me into the circle of Your love. Baptize me afresh with the same Spirit with which You summoned all Your people to move forward into a New World. Empower me to be Your disciple in all I say and do this day. Amen.

Journal Reflection: Remember back to the day of your baptism (or confirmation of your baptism). What memories come to mind? What were your promises to God? What difference does your baptism make in your life now? What do you need to do today to have the Spirit affirm you? Baptism is important everyday of your life. Through baptism you began the public faith journey. Through baptism you publicly affirm your life time faith in Jesus. Celebrate your baptism today in a special way.

Resolve: I am and will live as a baptized follower of Christ.

TUESDAY 1-5-10

Read: Psalm 29 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+29)

Prayer: I know that this world does not belong to me, O Lord. I belong to it. I know that I did not weave the web of life. I am but one strand among many threads. I also know that whatever I do effects all the other strands of Your web. Therefore, Creator God, I ask for Your guidance, wisdom, and love to be within me as I live today. I want to add positive energy to the World Wide Web. Without Your help, I can only be negative. Help me, Lord. Amen.

Journal Reflection: The psalmist writes of God's power in the natural forces of our world. Scripture teaches that God is still creating the world. Modern philosophy has God as absent from the world most of the time. Which thought do you believe? Which thought do you actually practice? Is God present in all things, or is God absent from our world? Decide today to live in the awareness that God is present in every moment of your life.

Resolve: Thank You God for continuing to create me!

WEDNESDAY 1-6-10

Read: Isaiah 43:1-7 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=isaiah+43:1-7)

Prayer: Father in Heaven, my self-love needs a boost today. As I walk through this day help me to feel Your presence and Your love. Help me to know in my heart that You, the Great Heart of the Universe, is sharing Your love with me. Help me to be strong in Your love. I am certainly weak in mine. Amen.

Journal Reflection: Before the universe was created, God was. After the universe is dead and gone, God will be. God is beyond our comprehension and our reason. God is. You exist because God chose to give you life. And, God says that God called you into being by name! Our beautiful world exists because God sang it into being. God promises to be with you when you go through difficult times. God tells you that you are precious in God's sight! Give thanks to God today for the wonder, beauty, and majesty of God. Give thanks for God's creation song that continues to sustain you each and every day of your life!

Resolve: I will thank God all day today!

THURSDAY **1-7-10**

Read: Acts 19:1-7 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=acts+19:1-7)

Prayer: Holy Spirit, move in this heart of mine. Create in me a clean heart. Establish a Christ-like spirit within me. Holy Spirit, empower me so that I can fight evil in all its forms today. And, thank You for forgiving me when I am overcome by the evil of this world. I can keep going because I know You are with me. Thank You! I praise You. I love You! Amen.

Journal Reflection: The people's heart was right, but their focus was a little off. They still followed John the Baptist. They had not met Jesus. Hence, baptism was a ritual observance, not a power filled experience. When they met Jesus, power followed. Let today be a day you focus upon Jesus. See in everyone you meet the heart of Jesus beating. Let the Christ in you meet the Christ in them and experience the power of God's love flowing between you.

Resolve: I will live within the Great Heart of God today.

FRIDAY **1-8-10**

Read: Habakkuk 3:17-19 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=habakkuk+3:17-19)

Prayer: Jesus, Word of God in the flesh, I am turning my mind toward You today. I am focusing upon Your great love. Even if today is a "Murphy's Law" day, I am staying focused upon You. I am going to rejoice in Your strength and power no matter how I feel. I am going to celebrate Your presence in my life even if my life is falling apart! I am rejoicing in You, Jesus, my Redeemer and Friend. Amen.

Journal Reflection: There is no promise that life will be a bed of roses. Life is filled with pain, loaded with injustice, and piled high with difficulties. If you wait to praise the Lord until you feel like it, then you will be praising God only a few days a month. Habakkuk, the prophet, urges us to praise the Lord every day regardless of the outward circumstances of our lives. So, praise God today!

Resolve: I praise You, Sovereign God of the Universe!

SATURDAY **1-9-10**

Read: Revelations 21: 1-8 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=revelations+21:1-8)

Prayer: Come, Lord Jesus, into our world. I long for Your new heaven and new earth to be a complete reality. Sometimes I feel overwhelmed by the evil around and within me. I falter in my desire to follow You. I find myself living more for myself and less for others. The shadow world seems to be strong and I need the light of Your presence and Your love. Amen.

Journal Reflection: John's vision is a powerful, God-given one! Reread the Revelation passage. Notice the affirmation of God. God is the beginning and the end of all matter, space, time, and energy. God is the giver of life! Allow this vision to live within your heart today. Allow the magnitude of God to overwhelm you. Set aside your earth bound ideas and allow God to open you up to the new world where sin no longer exists and evil is defeated! Allow God to give you a taste of the river of life today. God will if you just open up your mind and heart.

Resolve: I am open to God "blowing my mind" today!