

Walking in Christ's Light

Daily Prayer Journal

March 1-6, 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 13:1-9 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=luke13:1-9)

Theme: "Life is not fair, but it is still good."

Sermon: "Bearing Fruit"

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

MONDAY 3-1-10

Read: Luke 13:1-9 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=luke+13:1-9)

Prayer: I want to be a bearer of fruit in my life, Lord. I want to make a good difference for someone. Lord Jesus, teach me how to be a fruit bearer in Your orchard! Open up my inner being to receive your gift of spiritual power that will help me to grow fruit in my life. Teach me how to share your extravagant love. Amen.

Journal Reflection: The importance of bearing fruit is underlined by this passage of Scripture. You are not on planet earth just to enjoy yourself. You are here for a reason with a purpose. God has a mission for you! Spend time today praying for the Holy Spirit to be active in your life so that you can be one of Christ's fruit bearers. Look for someone in your circle of acquaintances who needs the love of Christ, then share that love in an appropriate manner.

Resolve: Christ's work is my work today!

TUESDAY 3-2-10

Read: Isaiah 55:1-9 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=isaiah+55:1-9)

Prayer: Jesus, we follow you during these forty days of Lent, follow you toward your cross. When we consider the magnitude of your sacrifice for us, the depth of your love, the radical quality of your grace toward us, how superficial, puny, and insignificant seem our offerings to you! Yet we are also reminded, in our move toward your cross, that Your offering, Your sacrifice is not the point. The point is that you have loved us with a love that is deep, pervasive, and relentless. You do not let us go; even from the cross you reached out and embraced us. During these forty days of Lent, draw us near to You, turn our hearts toward Your love, bring us to our knees in confession, and help us to turn, and then to return to You." Amen (Prayer from William H. Willimon, *Pulpit Resource*, p43)

Journal Reflection: Have you ever been really thirsty? I mean really, really thirsty! Maybe you have been hungry and thirsty? Isaiah the prophet promises that those persons who are hungry and thirsty for God will be blessed. Jesus refines these words in Matthew 5: 6 and promises a great filling. Consider these promises and let your desire for serving the Lord grow and grow during Lent.

Resolve: In my life today, I desire to serve the Lord with all my heart.

WEDNESDAY 3-3-10

Read: I Corinthians 10:1-13 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=i+corinthians+10:1-13)

Prayer: Let me learn, gently, Lord Jesus that there are consequences to my choices. Teach me gently, because I am a slow learner in this area. I am thankful for Your patience with me. Amen

Journal Reflection: There are many examples of God's allowing disaster to strike when persons have disobeyed long enough. God will "up the ante" when our ears are closed to any other way of communicating with us. God will not abandon you, but God will use whatever handle that is available to get you attention. Be aware of the importance of your choices today. Choose wisely. Choose for God. Choose to be a person of one of God's Kingdom citizens living with integrity, hope and love.

Resolve: I choose to walk in the path of the righteous!

THURSDAY **3-4-10**

Read: Psalm 63:1-8 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+63:1-8)

Prayer: O God, You are my Protector. Without You life is worthless. With You life is creative, joyful, and free. Thank You for being in my life. Thank You for taking the difficult parts of this life and making them better. Thank you for taking the suffering and bringing about new life. Thank You for giving me the opportunity to live for and with You. Amen.

Journal Reflection: There is a contemporary Christian song that uses the words of this psalm. My soul thirsts for You, O God. My body longs for You! Wow, what an image! Our body and souls are earnestly seeking to live for God. Even at night, we resolve to stay in touch with God. In our society, longing is for the immediate gratification of our “wanter”. Rarely do we stay focused long enough to desire something from the very depths of our souls. The Psalmist suggests that we need to learn how to desire God with our entire life.

Resolve: “O God, You are my God, and I will ever seek You!”

FRIDAY **3-5-10**

Read: Exodus 3: 1-15 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=exodus+3:1-15)

Prayer: Lord God of the entire universe, I thank You that You do not hide from me. You are not aloof and far from me. You are present with me every moment of every day. Thank You, Living God, for granting to me the gift of life. Thank You for granting to me the opportunity to know You and love You. Amen

Journal Reflection: Moses ran into God in the vision of the burning bush. Right there in the middle of Moses’ office was God. Moses needed a wake up call in order to see God. But, God was there all the time. What would God need to do to get your attention? God is present with you all day. What burning bush will you need to enable you to see God? Look for signs of God’s presence at work today. Watch for God’s presence in your home. God is alive! God loves you! God is willing to walk with you, if you are willing to walk with God. Pray that the Holy Spirit will open your eyes so that you might “see” God in your life today.

Resolve: I will walk with God all day today.

SATURDAY **3-6-10**

Read: Psalm 103 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+103)

Prayer: Loving God, thank You for forgiving me. There are ways that I miss the mark with my life. I just come up short. Thank You for making up the difference. There are ways that I separate myself from You so that I can do my own thing. Thank You for being with me, even when I am closed to You. There are ways that I choose to do evil and bring down problems upon my head. Thank You, Holy Spirit, for providing an umbrella that protects me from my own foolishness. Amen

Journal Reflection: The Psalmist says that God “redeems your life from the pit.” What a wonderful message! God loves you so much that you are redeemed from the cesspool of your own making. God wants what is good for you. God will forgive you and love you for all eternity. You do not need to carry around your past hurts, guilt’s, and pains. You can let them go to God who will forgive you and redeem you. God will provide for you when you cannot provide for yourself so you can let go of the anxiety about what might happen tomorrow. With God there is a partnership of creativity. Without God, there is only our limited self-centered way of creating a stinking pit in which to wallow. Reflect today on the many times that God pulled your life from the pit. Give thanks to God for each time! Now, choose to walk with God so that your pit life might be less and your joy life can be more!

Resolve: I Praise the Lord with all my heart, soul, body, and mind!