

Walking in Christ's Light

Daily Prayer Journal

April 12-17, 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: John 21:1-19 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=john+21:1-19)

Theme: "Forgive Everyone Everything"

Sermon: "The Forgiveness Encounter"

Question: How can I learn to forgive?

MONDAY 4-12-10

Read: I Corinthians 11:17-34 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=i+corinthians+11:17-34)

Prayer: "Almighty God, You call us to follow, and yet sometimes we hesitate. You ask us to make a choice, and yet sometimes we equivocate. It is so easy to be consumed by doing all that we think will secure our lives here. Help us to know that it is only in giving up our sense of control over our lives and following wherever You lead that we gain our lives. In the name of the One who calls us, we pray, Amen" (from Holding Children In Prayer, p.52)

Journal Reflection: Families, work places, neighborhoods, and churches can have problems with competition, envy, and pride. The Corinthian church was struggling with those problems and more. They needed the strong medicine of the Holy Spirit's challenge through the Apostle Paul's words. What would the Holy Spirit challenge you to stop doing so that you can be spiritually open to receive the Lord's Supper? Whatever it is—Do it!

Resolve: I will listen and follow the Spirit's directions for my life today.

TUESDAY 4-13-10

Read: Revelation 5:11-14 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=revelation+5:11-14)

Prayer: Holy Spirit, I need better timing in my life. I need to time my hearing so that I can understand Your directions. May I hear quickly what I need to change in my life today! Forgive my sin and cleanse me over and over again. Thank You, Holy Spirit for Your faithfulness and Your guidance. Amen

Journal Reflection: Read the Scripture for today several times. Let the picture that is being described imprint itself upon your mind. Place yourself among the thousands of people surrounding the Lamb's throne. In your mind's eye sing praise to God all day long! Shout, clap, sing, dance, and cheer the One True and Living God. Offering worship to God is the great opportunity we have as human beings. Worship God today!

Resolve: I will praise the Lord with all my body, soul, and mind today.

WEDNESDAY 4-14-10

Read: Psalm 30 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+30)

Prayer: Mighty Spirit of God, Creator of Heaven and Earth, I thank You for the beauty of this spring day. I thank You for sunshine, for rain, for trees and flowers, and for all the beauty of the earth. God, I thank You for the showers of Your blessings that fall into my mind and life because of Your grace, mercy, and love. Amen.

Journal Reflection: When the Holy Spirit works within your heart grief can be transformed into new life; hollow words become filled; mourning turns into joy; and life is redeemed from the pit of death. Today specifically ask the Holy Spirit to be vitally and powerfully present in your life. Choose to be aware of the Spirit working. Share whatever is on your mind, then listen and allow the Holy Spirit to respond!

Resolve: I am and will be open to the moving of the Holy Spirit in my life.

THURSDAY 4-15-10

Read: Acts 9:1-6 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=acts+9:1-6)

Prayer: Loving Abba, God my Father and Mother, True Parent of all Creation, help me to have the spirit of a little child and dare to love You totally and without reservation, mistrust, or fear. Then help me to see Your children in need around the world through Your eyes of love. And, then, give me the courage to do something to help the worlds' children. Amen.

Journal Reflection: The Apostle Paul encountered the Risen Christ on the Damascus Road. This was a point in his life journey that transformed him. He was turned around! Can you remember a point, or points that changed your direction? The Holy Spirit works in lives today to provide just such moments. There are small ways you are challenged to choose good over evil. There are large decisions where you must choose Christ's way or the other way. Remember back on some of those points of your journey. Notice the moving of the Holy Spirit with you at those points. Give thanks to God for past directions and seek the Lord God's guidance today.

Resolve: I am open today to receive directions from you, Holy Spirit!

FRIDAY 4-16-10

Read: John 21:1-19 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=john+21:1-19)

Prayer: Holy Spirit, hope fills my spirit and joy floods my heart in this moment with You. Your love surrounds me and I am at peace with the world. Thank You for protecting, comforting, teaching, and challenging me. Thank you for the joy I have in knowing You and celebrating Your gift of resurrection. Amen

Journal Reflection: There are multiple witnesses to the Risen Christ being alive, well, and caring for person's welfare. Peter needed to be forgiven and to forgive himself. Therefore, the Risen Christ comes to him. Others of the disciples needed to be assured that Jesus was truly alive! Jesus is there for them to see. In fact, Jesus cooks breakfast for them. Imagine! Whatever the need, Christ was there to meet it then, and the same is true today. Make a list of your needs. In prayer, ask the Risen Christ to help you to meet every need on your list. Let go of the list after your prayer and trust Christ to meet you, teach you, forgive you, and help you to deal with each item on your list. It may take awhile, but Christ is faithful. Trust him and he will show up! Check your list weekly and cross off the needs Christ has already met. Then, give thanks for answered prayer.

Resolve: I put my faith and trust in you, O Lord, today and every day!

SATURDAY 4-17-10

Read: II Corinthians 5:16-21 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=ii+corinthians+5:16-21)

Prayer: Loving Spirit, Holy Spirit, thank You for the beautiful thoughts that are entering my mind. Thank You for these positive emotions of well being that are swelling up within me, driving out despair, and gloom self-pity and guile and filling me with peace and the beauty of Your love, Oh God. Thank You for all these blessings and all the blessings yet to come! Amen

Journal Reflection: When you are growing in your relationship with Christ, you are becoming a new person. The items of the past that used to weigh you down are slipping off your back. The sins of the past are forgiven. The poor habits of today are being changed. The focus of your life is shifting from yourself to Christ and others. Your life mission is changing into a person who shares God's peace, love, and joy. How is all this transformation happening in you? It is the work of the Holy Spirit. Be aware today of the Holy Spirit helping you to grow into a fully alive and mature human being.

Resolve: I celebrate the creative work of the Holy Spirit in my life.