

Walking in Christ's Light
Daily Prayer Journal

June 21-26, 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

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**Scripture: Ephesians 5:8-20 (Contemporary English Version)** <sup>8</sup>You used to be like people living in the dark, but now you are people of the light because you belong to the Lord. So act like people of the light <sup>9</sup>and make your light shine. Be good and honest and truthful, <sup>10</sup>as you try to please the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Don't take part in doing those worthless things that are done in the dark. Instead, show how wrong they are. <sup>12</sup>It is disgusting even to talk about what is done in the dark. <sup>13</sup>But the light will show what these things are really like. <sup>14</sup>Light shows up everything,<sup>1</sup> just as the Scriptures say, "Wake up from your sleep and rise from death. Then Christ will shine on you." <sup>15</sup>Act like people with good sense and not like fools. <sup>16</sup>These are evil times, so make every minute count. <sup>17</sup>Don't be stupid. Instead, find out what the Lord wants you to do. <sup>18</sup>Don't destroy yourself by getting drunk, but let the Spirit fill your life. <sup>19</sup>When you meet together, sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, as you praise the Lord with all your heart. <sup>20</sup>Always use the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to thank God the Father for everything.

**Theme:** Reflecting God's light to the world

**Sermon:** "Let Your Light Shine"

**Question:** Are you living in a way that others can see God's glory through you?

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Monday **June 21**

Read: Ephesians 5:8-20 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=ephesians+5:8-20)

Prayer: Help me, O Lord, to live in your light every minute of every day. Help me to not follow the crowd, but to do only those things which are pleasing to you.

Journal Reflection: This scripture reminds us that there are differences between Christians, who live in God's light, and those of the world, who live in darkness. God's light exposes everything and we need to be sure all of our actions can be exposed to light without shame or embarrassment. Today think about every action you take and decide if you would be willing to let God see you doing it.

Resolve: To only participate in activities that would be pleasing to God.

Tuesday **June 22**

Read: Psalm 27: 4-9 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+27:4-9)

Prayer: God you are constant and always there for me. Thank you for Your Son, through who we are able to live in your kingdom here on earth. Help me to stay in relationship with You throughout my day, thanking You for my blessings, depending on You for my protection, turning to You for all my needs.

Journal Reflection: King David well understood how imperfect he was, and how much he needed God for everything. He was in a personal relationship with God and knew that he could turn to God in all of his moods – thankful, frightened, persecuted, needy, loving, and all others. Try turning to God with every aspect of your life, strengthening your personal relationship with Him.

Resolve: I will share all my emotions with God, good and bad.

Wednesday **June 23**

Read: Matthew 5: 13-16 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=matthew+5:13-16)

Prayer: Dear God, I am thankful for the people you have placed in my life, the people who have helped me to see You through their actions. Help me to be the kind of person that will show Your glory to others and lead them to you through my actions.

Journal Reflection: Jesus is speaking in this passage, as part of His sermon on the mount. This follows the Beatitudes. After explaining how we need to act to receive God's blessing, He goes on to show us why this important for our mission to evangelize to others.

Resolve: to be the person that brings others to God by reflecting His glory.

Thursday **June 24**

Read: Psalm 89: 11-17 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+89:11-17)

Prayer: Thank you God for Your creation, for Your kingdom, for Your promises, and for Your blessings. You have made promises to Your people and You never fail us. Help me to remember Your unconditional love when I am feeling down. Help me to show unconditional love to those around me.

Journal Reflection: The Psalms are songs of praise, much like the songs we use in worship today. What blessings do you think of as you read this portion? How often do you recognize the blessings in your life? Do you only turn to God when there are problems?

Resolve: to turn to God with praise, thanking Him for all he has given us, especially His unconditional love.

Friday **June 25**

Read: Galations 5: 16-25 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=galations+5:16-25)

Prayer: God, help me to follow Your ways and to deny my selfish desires. I am constantly torn between what I want to do, and what I end up doing. I acknowledge that I am too weak on my own, but that You can be gloried in my weakness and give me the strength to follow Your ways.

Journal Reflection: Paul is talking to the Galations in this letter. When they first became Christians, they were full of strength and fervor for the Lord. However, over time the emotions faded and it became harder to remember why they were abstaining from all the worldly activities. Paul was writing to remind them of their commitment to Christ, and to their Christian brothers and sisters, and to the others in their midst who had yet to come to Christ. Do you remember the emotion when you first accepted Christ? Has your fervor faded and been replaced with complacency? Do you reflect Christ's teachings in your relationships with other Christians and with those outside the church?

Resolve: To represent Christ's teaching with everyone you meet today.

Saturday **June 26**

Read: Isaiah 42: 5-8 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=isaiah+42:5-8)

Prayer: Lord you have created us to be Your children, You have entered into a covenant with us, and You have called us to be Your light to others. Help me to remember Your power, and that with the Holy Spirit, You can use me to do Your work here in the world.

Journal Reflection: This passage in Isaiah is God, talking to His Son, the coming Messiah. God outlines His promises to Christ and His expectations. Through Christ's sacrifice, we have been restored in relationship with God and we are expected to continue His work here on earth, and His promises are now promises to us. We need to take this task seriously, and fully trust in His promises to us.

Resolve: to look for ways to continue to be the light to those who don't know Christ.