

**Walking in Christ's Light**  
**Daily Prayer Journal**

July 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**

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**Scripture:** Psalm 39:6-12 (NIV) ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+39:6-12](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+39:6-12))

**Theme:** "Into the unknown"

**Sermon:** "To Be Determined" Yes, that's the title...

**Question:**  
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**Monday, July 12**

**Read: Psalm 39:6-12 (TNIV)** ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+39:6-12](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+39:6-12))

6 "Surely everyone goes around like a mere phantom; in vain they rush about, heaping up wealth without knowing whose it will finally be. 7 "But now, Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in you. 8 Save me from all my transgressions; do not make me the scorn of fools. 9 I was silent; I would not open my mouth, for you are the one who has done this. 10 Remove your scourge from me; I am overcome by the blow of your hand. 11 When you rebuke and discipline people for their sins, you consume their wealth like a moth—surely everyone is but a breath. 12 "Hear my prayer, LORD, listen to my cry for help; do not be deaf to my weeping. I dwell with you as a foreigner, a stranger, as all my ancestors were.

**Journal Reflection:** The Psalmist had the experience of being in despair as a stranger in a strange land. This was a major part of the history of the Hebrew and Israelite people. When have you felt a stranger, unwelcome, unknown, isolated, trapped, alone, or unaware of your surroundings. The bigger picture of scripture demonstrates that God stands with those who are foreigners, protecting, supporting and offering them safe refuge.

**Prayer:** Abba, Daddy, be near to me when I feel heading into a strange place in life. Remind me of your presence to heal and restore me.

**Resolve:** I will accept God's safe refuge for me today.

**Tuesday, July 13**

**Read: 1 Chronicles 16:25-35 (The Message)** ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=1+chronicles+16:25-35](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=1+chronicles+16:25-35))

23-27 Sing to God, everyone and everything! Get out his salvation news every day! Publish his glory among the godless nations, his wonders to all races and religions. And why? Because God is great—well worth praising! No god or goddess comes close in honor. All the popular gods are stuff and nonsense, but God made the cosmos! Splendor and majesty flow out of him, strength and joy fill his place. 28-29 Shout Bravo! to God, families of the peoples, in awe of the Glory, in awe of the Strength: Bravo! Shout Bravo! to his famous Name, lift high an offering and enter his presence! Stand resplendent in his robes of holiness! 30-33 God is serious business, take him seriously; he's put the earth in place and it's not moving. So let Heaven rejoice, let Earth be jubilant, and pass the word among the nations, "God reigns!" Let Ocean, all teeming with life, bellow, let Field and all its creatures shake the rafters; Then the trees in the forest will add their applause to all who are pleased and present before God—he's on his way to set things right! 34-36 Give thanks to God—he is good and his love never quits. Say, "Save us, Savior God, round us up and get us out of these godless places, So we can give thanks to your holy Name, and bask in your life of praise." Blessed be God, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Then everybody said, "Yes! Amen!" and "Praise God!"

**Journal Reflection:** The author of 1 Chronicles is so filled with praise for God that he wants to shout it from the mountain tops, to all nations far and wide. He sees a glimpse of what God has done and is bowled over so much that it seems he can't contain himself. How incredible must have been his experience to be expressing in that sort of exuberance?

**Prayer:** God, allow me to experience your glory, that it might fill me with awe and wonder over what you have created and what you are doing in the world, and that by this I might understand more of who you are.

**Resolve:** I will praise God today because God is worth praising!

**Wednesday, July 14**

**Read: Isaiah 42:10-16 (The Message)** ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=isaiah+42:10-16](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=isaiah+42:10-16))

10-16 Sing to God a brand-new song, sing his praises all over the world! Let the sea and its fish give a round of applause, with all the far-flung islands joining in. Let the desert and its camps raise a tune, calling the Kedar nomads to join in. Let the villagers in Sela round up a choir and perform from the tops of the mountains. Make God's glory resound; echo his praises from coast to coast. God steps out like he means business. You can see he's primed for action. He shouts, announcing his arrival; he takes charge and his enemies fall into line: "I've been quiet long enough. I've held back, biting my tongue. But now I'm letting loose, letting go, like a woman who's having a baby—stripping the hills bare, withering the wildflowers, drying up the rivers, turning lakes into mudflats. But I'll take the hand of those who don't know the way, who can't see where they're going. I'll be a personal guide to them, directing them through unknown country. I'll be right there to show them what roads to take, make sure they don't fall into the ditch. These are the things I'll be doing for them—sticking with them, not leaving them for a minute."

**Journal Reflection:** When have you wondered where you were going? You made a best guess, but really had no clue as to what was ahead on the path you were taking. We learn from Isaiah that God will take the hand of those who don't know the way and are humble enough to accept guidance. How does it feel knowing that God cares enough to never leave us you on your journey through life, not even for one minute?

**Prayer:** God, be near to me when I feel alone. Remind me of your presence to heal, restore, and guide me.

**Resolve:** I will stand today knowing that God has never, and will never abandon me.

**Thursday, July 15**

**Read: Psalm 8 (TNIV)** ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+8](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+8))

**1** LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. **2** Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. **3** When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, **4** what are mere mortals that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? **5** You have made them a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned them with glory and honor. **6** You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet: **7** all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, **8** the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. **9** LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**Journal Reflection:** We serve a God who is master over all of creation, above and beyond us, and yet has placed us as caretakers over all that God created. Take a moment to stop today and allow the majestic nature of God and the balance of your responsibility as an earth caretaker to sit in your heart.

**Prayer:** God, grant me the wisdom to be a good caretaker of what you have entrusted me.

**Resolve:** I will be mindful of the world around me today.

**Friday, July 16**

**Read: Psalm 26 (NIV)** ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+26](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+26))

**1** Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have led a blameless life; I have trusted in the LORD without wavering. **2** Test me, O LORD, and try me, examine my heart and my mind; **3** for your love is ever before me, and I walk continually in your truth. **4** I do not sit with deceitful men, nor do I consort with hypocrites; **5** I abhor the assembly of evildoers and refuse to sit with the wicked. **6** I wash my hands in innocence, and go about your altar, O LORD, **7** proclaiming aloud your praise and telling of all your wonderful deeds. **8** I love the house where you live, O LORD, the place where your glory dwells. **9** Do not take away my soul along with sinners, my life with bloodthirsty men, **10** in whose hands are wicked schemes, whose right hands are full of bribes. **11** But I lead a blameless life; redeem me and be merciful to me. **12** My feet stand on level ground; in the great assembly I will praise the LORD.

**Journal Reflection:** David was known to have written this Psalm and we know that David confesses to heinous crimes against God and other people, and yet David is also described as blameless here. How can this be? Perhaps within the deepest part of David's heart is a purity of desire to serve God. Anything he does that falls short of this is given in humility to God as David relies on God's grace. What can you learn from David's example?

**Prayer:** God, cleanse me and set my feet on level ground that my life might be blameless before you.

**Resolve:** I will hand over my shortcomings to God today.

**Saturday, July 17**

**Read: Luke 10:16-26 (TNIV)** ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=luke+10:16-26](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=luke+10:16-26))

**16** "Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects me; but whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me."

**17** The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."

**18** He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. **19** I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. **20** However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

**21** At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure."

**22** "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and no one knows who the Father is except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

**23** Then he turned to his disciples and said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. **24** For I tell you that many prophets and kings wanted to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it."

**Journal Reflection:** The "wise and learned" were the ones in power in 1st century Palestine who had been trying to trap Jesus in his words to discredit him and plotted to kill him. Reflect on why Jesus would praise God that the power and authority demonstrated in dramatic ways by his disciples was hidden from the "wise and learned" and revealed to those considered the "least" in this culture? What is revealed to you through this scripture passage?

**Prayer:** God, open my eyes to your power which is demonstrated all around me every day.

**Resolve:** I will place my trust in God, who is author of things much beyond my understanding.