

Walking in Christ's Light

Daily Prayer Journal

September 20-25, 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: Psalm 146 and Matthew 6:9-10

(www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+146) (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=matthew+6:9-10)

Theme: "It's never too late to have a happy childhood. But the second one is up to you and no one else."

Sermon: "Praying with Jesus: Your Will Be Done!"

Question: How can I know that I am following God's will for my life?

MONDAY

9-20-10

Read: Luke 16:19-31 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=luke+16:19-31)

Prayer: Dear Lord and Savior, I confess that I call You Lord, yet I do not always live as if You are my Lord. I am willing to call You Lord and Master of my life on Sunday. But, I am reluctant to let You into all the areas of my life. I keep Sunday and Monday separated. Business, money, my possessions, and my job I keep safe from intrusions of faith. Lord Jesus, let Your light shine upon all of my doings. Help me to see clearly how Your presence creates abundance and Your absence creates disaster. Amen

Journal Reflection: Jesus urges us to see clearly the needs around us. We can be so absorbed in our lives that we do not see the pain and suffering in our friends much less the stranger down the street. Decide today that you will pray for "Jesus eyes" so that you can see clearly what is happening in your world. Decide that you will let Christ's Spirit empower you to do something good for the person you see in need.

Resolve: I will view the world through Jesus' eyes today.

TUESDAY

9-21-10

Read: Jeremiah 32:1-3a & 6-15 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=jeremiah+32:1-3a;6-15)

Prayer: Beautiful Savior, I thank You for placing within my heart Your hope. Because I know You, I can face tomorrow. Because I know that You are with me, I can let go of yesterday. Because I know that I am in Your care, I can enjoy today. Thank You for giving me abundant hope today and every day for the rest of my life. Amen

Journal Reflection: The Prophet Jeremiah bought land when the country was falling apart. Logic and reason told him to run for the hills. God told him to buy. Jeremiah put his hope in God. God's ways are not our ways. Sometimes we place our hope in God and suspend our logic and reason. Let your mind reflect on your life and a time when you had a Jeremiah experience. Share that experience with someone today.

Resolve: I place my hope in God and God alone.

WEDNESDAY

9-22-10

Read: I Timothy 6:6-19 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=i+timothy+6:6-19)

Prayer: Holy Spirit, implant within my heart a love for You so strong that nothing and no one can tempt me away from You. May Your love flow through me so that everyone I meet today will encounter Your love moving through me to them. Amen

Journal Reflection: Notice that the love of money is a root of evil. Money itself is neither good nor bad. A person who loves God and is willing to share their money can do much good in God's world. Ask Christ to teach you how to love God and use your money wisely.

Resolve: My first love is God and God alone.

THURSDAY

9-23-10

Read: Psalm 91:1-6 & 14-16 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+91:1-6;14-16)

Prayer: (Prayer from Wesley Taylor, Tigard, Oregon) "Dear God, You are the Alpha and the Omega and everything in between—even right now—even at halftime—and the intermissions. Yes, You will be tomorrow, and You were yesterday and today, too, even high noon. Yes, You are in our world right now, too---acting in our lives, creating right now, creating life and hope, purpose and possibility, promise and rebirth. Help us, remind us, God You are with us! Help us to remember You are God, now and all the time. Always! For us, for all humankind. Always! Amen!"

Journal Reflection: Imagine yourself under the protection of a giant umbrella. The sun and rain cannot get to you. You are enjoying being outside in a protected environment. This is the image the Psalmist paints for us. In the hot desert a cool shelter is important to sustain life. God is your shelter! Allow yourself to experience God's shelter all day today.

Resolve: I will rest under the shelter of the Almighty God!

FRIDAY**9-24-10****Read:** Amos 6: 1-7 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=amos+6:1-7)**Prayer:** (Indian Prayer from northern Canada) O God, help me to walk in the boots of the miner, the shoes of the trader, the moccasins of the trapper, and in the sandals of Jesus Christ the Master, and to see others as Jesus would see them. Amen”**Journal Reflection:** The Prophet Amos condemns the rich who live off the work of the poor. Amos foretells the justice of God coming to the wealthy who invest themselves in their own pleasure while ignoring the needs of their neighbors. Notice that these people who are judged by God are religious people. God will hold us all accountable for how we respond to the poor. Let us find ways to give generously to God.**Resolve:** I will be a responsible and Godly wealthy person.**SATURDAY****9-25-10****Read:** Psalm 146 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+146)**Prayer:** (Prayer from *A Shorter Morning and Evening Prayer*) “Loving God, Yours is the beauty of creation and the good things You have given us. Help us to go forth this day joyfully in Your name and to spend it in loving service of You and our neighbor. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen”**Journal Reflection:** The government is not an institution in which you can place your hope. The military, the courts, the police, business, and even the church are not institutions in which you can place your sure and certain hope. All human institutions fail. God does not fail! You can put your trust in God and your hope is not in vain. Live today trusting God to be good and do good for you and your family.**Resolve:** “I will praise the Lord all my life”

LIFE APPLICATION QUESTIONS
For Sunday, September 19, 2010's Sermon
Foundational Scripture: Matthew 6:9-10a

Featured Scripture Reflection: “Pray in this way: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your Name. Your kingdom come...’” (Matthew 6:9-10a NRSV) (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=matthew+6:9-10a)**Opening Icebreaker:** Name one reason you are happy to be an American.

Scripture Questions

What is the scripture saying?

- How is Jesus’ prayer a unifying force for the Christian Church worldwide?
- Jesus recognizes the fact of evil in our world. How does Jesus statement of God’s Kingdom being in the world right now challenge the power of evil?
- What was the political/religious life like in the time of Jesus?
- What is the power promised to Kingdom Citizens by Jesus?

How is your life touched?

- What are the requirements of a Kingdom Citizen?
- Which requirement is most challenging to you?
- Where is your life most vulnerable to the Evil One?
- What is most important to you about carrying a Kingdom Passport?

What is God’s invitation to you?

- Jesus invites you to pray in community and individually following the phrases and form of Jesus’ prayer. When you think of God’s Kingdom becoming real in your life, what do you most want to see happen? How can the group support your vision?

What can you pray for?

Pray that Chilson Hills will be a joyous, faithful, praying community of God’s incredible resurrection power celebrating Jesus Christ’s transforming hope and love in order to help grow God’s Kingdom on earth.