

Walking in Christ's Light
Daily Prayer Journal
October 12-17, 2009

*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: Mark 10:35-45 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=mark+10:35-45)

Theme: Christ's Cross brings about honesty

Sermon: "The Double Cross"

Question: How can I get over the petty aspects of my life?

MONDAY **10-12-09**

Read: Mark 12:28-31 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=mark+12:28-31)

Prayer: Almighty God, I pray today that we, who call ourselves Christians, may be so filled with the reality of the living resurrected Christ that through the power of His Spirit with us we'll be able to love people the way Christ first loved us. Christ respected us. Christ accepted us because he understood us. Christ had hopes for us and He's kept working with us. Thank You, Jesus. Continue to teach us all how to pass Your love on to others. Amen.

Journal Reflection: Jesus summarizes the spiritual journey in the two great commandments quoted in today's Scripture. Which of the three loves (God, neighbor, self) do you find the easiest to put into practice? Which are the most difficult for you? Which love do you actually put first? Allow yourself to be brutally honest with yourself and with God. Whose love do you celebrate most? What do you need to do to align yourself with Jesus' commandments? An honest check on your first loves and your values is your check book. Where you put your money actually is where your heart is.

Resolve: God is my first love today, all day today!

TUESDAY **10-13-09**

Read: Job 38:1-7 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=job+38:1-7)

Prayer: Loving Creator God, I am aware today how much I have taken for granted---my health and the magnificent physical body you have given to me. Thank You, God, for legs that walk, for arms that bend, for hands that work, for eyes that see, for ears that hear, for a mouth to speak, for a brain that is alive with thoughts. Thank You, thank You, my Lord. Amen.

Journal Reflection: After 37 chapters of Job challenging God to appear, God does! Put yourself in Job's place. What would you do if God showed up and challenged you as God does to Job in this passage? Wow! What an encounter Job has with the Eternal One. There will be a day when you will stand before your Creator. Practice today what you will say.

Resolve: I put my complete trust in Jesus Christ, the Risen Savior of the world.

WEDNESDAY **10-14-09**

Read: Hebrews 5:1-10 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=hebrews+5:1-10)

Prayer: Holy Spirit, as I encounter others today, help me not to be indifferent, but to genuinely care about their hurts and need for love. Make me sensitive to the problems of others. Give me the strength to reach out and share Your love with them. Spirit of God, allow me to be a conduit of Your amazing love so that each person I meet today is touched by Your powerful love. Amen.

Journal Reflection: In the midst of all the Biblical symbolism in this passage one clear truth emerges. Jesus freely chose to die in your place. Jesus chose to die once and for all so that death is put to death. You have a friend who will stand beside you, protect you, and most of all forgive you when you stand before God. Give thanks to Jesus today for his incredible love and infinite mercy given to you so that you might live with Christ forever.

Resolve: I accept Jesus as my High Priest today and everyday of my life.

THURSDAY **10-15-09**

Read: Mark 10:35-45 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=mark+10:35-45)

Prayer: Jesus, Master Teacher, I know that I have not completely conquered negative thinking, so bless me this day with Your reminder, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." With this positive affirmation before me today, I know I can live victoriously. Amen.

Journal Reflection: The competitive urge is a basic instinct in every human being. You want to be recognized. You want to be considered as worthy. You want to be noticed as being a little bit better than your sister or brother. Jesus followers in this Scripture are no different than any of us. Jesus turns their world upside down by saying the last, the least, and the most vulnerable will be the leaders in God's new world. Rather than try to be in the honored seat beside Jesus, they would do better to compete for the lowly job of washing the others feet. Jesus says look in the reverse. The poor will be rich! How do you play this power game with Jesus' name in your everyday life? Wouldn't it be more healthy to seek to be a servant?

Resolve: I am following Jesus today, even if it means washing feet.

FRIDAY **10-16-09**

Read: Genesis 45:1-15 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=genesis+45:1-15)

Prayer: Almighty and Most Merciful God, You are so good! You have again helped me to focus on the positive and not the negative. As I survey my day with its losses and gains, remind me that Your will for me contains only victories. Eternal God, challenge me today to see the big picture, to recognize the real person before me, and to seek only the best for each person I meet. Thank You, thank you, God. Amen.

Journal Reflection: Joseph's brothers sold him into slavery. This was sibling rivalry gone amok! You might have wanted to sell your sister or brother once or twice. You might have wanted to put them into a pit and walk away. However, walking away is not God's way. Ego centered rivalry for position and power is not God's way. Carrying grudges and keeping anger alive is also not God's way. After all the years of slavery and estrangement, God brings Jacob's family back together again. Forgiveness happens and salvation is possible. Today choose to ask God to help you to let go of any past anger, ego hurt, or even hatred. Let go and let God work within you as God worked with Joseph and his brothers.

Resolve: I will hold no grudge against anyone. Not today! Not any day!

SATURDAY **10-17-09**

Read: Matthew 5:23-24 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=matthew+5:23-24)

Prayer: Glorious Creator, I am filled with joy and wonder at the indescribable beauty arrayed in the colorful autumn leaves. Thank You for creating a world with changing seasons. Thank You for the variety of glorious beauty which You bestow upon this earth. Amen

Journal Reflection: Jesus directs you to take care of personal business in this Scripture. Do not allow anger to percolate. Do not allow a hurtful or frustrating situation to become an ongoing puss filled boil. Jesus tells you to deal with a person with whom you have a broken relationship. In the eternal scope of God's new world, you will have to deal with that person and issue sometime. You might as well deal with the person today and let God work redemption and reconciliation in your life today..

Resolve: I will become reconciled to God and to everyone today.