

**Walking in Christ's Light**  
**Daily Prayer Journal**  
**November 9-14, 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 4:26-29 ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=mark+4:26-29](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=mark+4:26-29))

**Theme:** Growing with God

**Sermon:** "Growing in Trust with God"

**Question:** How can I best grow healthy in my life?

**MONDAY**                      **11-9-09**

**Read:** Matthew 25:14-30 ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=matthew+25:14-30](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=matthew+25:14-30))

**Prayer:** Lord Jesus Christ, thank You for inviting me to be one of Your disciples. Thank You for giving me opportunity to build up Your New Jerusalem. Knowing my limitations and myself, I am amazed that You have put so much trust in me. Lord Jesus, I ask You to help me to be more faithful. I want to be one of Your faithful builders. Enable me so to live that others might look at me and see Your Kingdom taking form through my life. Amen.

**Journal Reflection:** God loves this world! Why else would God send Jesus into the world for our salvation? (John 3:16 tells us this truth) As God lovers we are also called to risk our creative energy to make this world a better place. Decide today to do some act of kindness, some work of beauty, or some touch of ministry in Christ's name. Choose one way you can make this world a little better place because you love God and love this world.

**Resolve:** I will be a conduit for God's love today.

**TUESDAY**                      **11-10-09**

**Read:** Psalm 123 ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+123](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+123))

**Prayer:** Lord God, Creator of the Universe, when I consider Your power, Your majesty, how awesome You are, I tremble. I depend upon Your mercy. I depend upon Your loving kindness for life, for love, and for energy to create. Thanks for being so generous and understanding with me. Amen.

**Journal Reflection:** "Lord have mercy" is an early Christian prayer. Consider it for today. In postmodern America, we do not think in terms of mercy. Mercy is that gift of love extended by someone who has the power to harm you but chooses not to do so. Unfortunately, in our smugness we think God is lucky we talk with Him every now and again. However, if you allow yourself to ponder the majesty of God and your infinitesimal role in this world, you will quickly move into the position of giving thanks for God's mercy.

**Resolve:** I will celebrate the majesty of my merciful Creator God today.

**WEDNESDAY**                      **11-11-09**

**Read:** I Thessalonians 5:1-11 ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=i+thessalonians+5:1-11](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=i+thessalonians+5:1-11))

**Prayer:** Loving God, all around me are signs of Your gracious bounty. Your gifts to me are so many that I cannot list them all. Forgive me for taking for granted all I am given. Forgive me especially when I forget Your wonderful gifts of love, hope, and faith. Thank You for giving me another day to share my love with you through gifts of time, money, and skills. Amen.

**Journal Reflection:** The "Day of the Lord" is coming. Do you respond with fear, boredom, or preparedness? The Apostle Paul suggests the latter. We do not and cannot know the exact day when Christ will come again on earth. However we can decide to live today as if it were the day that Jesus returns. If you knew that Jesus was coming today, what difference will it make in your agenda, attitude, and anticipation? Once you have those differences in mind, change what you do so that you will be prepared for Jesus at any moment.

**Resolve:** I am looking forward to Jesus' coming for me today.

## **THURSDAY**                      **11-12-09**

**Read:** **Judges 4:1-7** ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=judges+4:1-7](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=judges+4:1-7))

**Prayer:** Holy Spirit, be alive within me. I need courage to live a righteous life. I need patience to live a holy life. I need Your presence to enable me to love my enemies. I need Your guidance to know how to use my life to better this world. Holy Spirit, I want to make a difference with my life today. Empower me to live for You so that others might know You through my actions. Amen.

**Journal Reflection:** Early in the history of God's people a woman was in charge. Yes, that's right! Here in the Bible God calls the Prophet Deborah to be a leader of God's people! God gives leadership gifts to many people including women and men. Unfortunately in the Church and in our world we have placed limits on what God can do by excluding women from leadership positions in the church. Examine your mind and see if you are sinning against God and against women leaders by being unwilling to allow a woman to lead. If God can call Deborah into God's service, then God will call Sarah, JoAnn, Lucy, and many more women!

**Resolve:** I thank God for all God's leaders!

## **FRIDAY**                              **11-13-09**

**Read:** **I John 4:13-21** ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=i+john+4:13-21](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=i+john+4:13-21))

**Prayer:** "O Lord, open my eyes that I may see the needs of others. Open my ears that I may hear their cries. Open my heart so that they need not be without succor. Let me not be afraid to defend the weak because of the anger of the strong, nor afraid to defend the poor because of the anger of the rich. Show me where love and hope and faith are needed, and use me to bring them to those places. And so open my eyes and my ears that I may this coming day be able to do some work of peace for You." Amen. (Alan Patton, *The United Methodist Hymnal*, p.456)

**Journal Reflection:** Fear is the opposite of God's love. Think upon that truth. How does fear infect your life? Fear of losing a job, a home, a saving account, a community is real during this extended period of economic turmoil. Fear of what others will think is strong. Fear of pain is real. Fear of the unknown, including death, is human. What are your "fear buttons"? Ask the Holy Spirit to move within your heart today and cast out all fear. Ask the Spirit to fill you with Christ's love in such a way that you know the power of God's presence. Turn loose of fear and enjoy God's love today.

**Resolve:** I do not need to fear because I am one of God's beloved lovers today.

## **SATURDAY**                              **11-14-09**

**Read:** **Isaiah 35:1-10** ([www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=isaiah+35:1-10](http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=isaiah+35:1-10))

**Prayer:** King of the Universe, Lover of my heart, I am in awe of You. I love You. Jesus, my Lord and Savior, gives me the gift of loving You. I am blessed by the opportunity of loving You. Thank You for inviting me to be a part of Your family here on earth. I will do my best to love You by growing Your New Jerusalem in my time and place. Amen.

**Journal Reflection:** Isaiah talks of the coming "Day of the Lord". He urges that you not be afraid, rather that you work with joy to bring it about. Choose today to follow Isaiah's challenge and really work to build up God's family on earth. Share with God by doing acts of love, kindness, graciousness, and generosity with whomever you meet this week.

**Resolve:** I am, and will continue to be, on fire with the Holy Spirit.