

Walking in Christ's Light

Daily Prayer Journal

December 7 - December 12, 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: II Peter 3:8-15a (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=ii+peter+3:8-15a)

Theme: Watchful waiting with Christ

Sermon: "Here Today---Gone Tomorrow"

Question: What can I do when the world turns against me?

MONDAY

12-7-09

Read: Isaiah 11:1-9 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=isaiah+11:1-9)

Prayer: "Dear Lord, I am bewildered by the angry world. I do not know the meaning of the flags unfurled. The noisy skies, the tortured seas; what sayest, Thou, O Lord, to these? I hear the strident call to arms; above the scenes of men in desperate debate, their war machines defile the skies, pollute the earth. How much, O Lord, can peace be worth? Hast Thou in merited disgust turned back from man who recklessly has broken trust and sinned again? Forgive our selfish lust for power, and save us in this dreadful hour. Return, O Lord, return, and save this wretched race, save us, not by Thy justice, Lord, but by Thy grace. Forgive our foolish, pompous way, and save us from ourselves, we pray. Amen." (Eric Lincoln)

Journal Reflection: The prophet gives us God's vision of peace. It includes friendship with God within a world where violence is banished, hatred defeated, envy destroyed, and greed is removed. A Loving God meets all needs. The goodness and grace of our God defeats all evil. The whole world is at one with the Creator. Let Isaiah's peace message move deeply into your heart. Pray that this vision of God's peace will become so much a part of you that you will be one of God's instruments of peace in your home and place of work this week.

Resolve: I am and will be one of Jesus' peacemakers.

TUESDAY

12-8-09

Read: Matthew 21:33-46 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=matthew+21:33-46)

Prayer: Almighty and all loving God, thank You for placing me in Your vineyard to live and work. I welcome You home anytime. I enjoy Your presence in my life. I celebrate Your being with my family and me. Thank You for the privilege of enjoying and sharing life together in Your vineyard. Amen.

Journal Reflection: In this story Jesus is challenging the religious leaders to reflect upon their openness to God's being among them. They were resistant. They wanted to do their thing, their way! Does that sound familiar? Pray today for the courage to be open to God's presence in your life. Invite God into your place of work, your home, and your neighborhood. Enjoy God's presence and the guidance God gives to you!

Resolve: I welcome God into my life today.

WEDNESDAY

12-9-09

Read: Philippians 3:4-14 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=philippians+3:4-14)

Prayer: Christ, I want You and You alone in the center of my heart. I want to share in a close personal relationship with You. I am so grateful that You allow me to live in Your light and share life with Your Holy Spirit. I am thankful that I am daily blessed by Your love. Amen.

Journal Reflection: The Apostle Paul is focused upon Christ! Although he has gone through great trials and tribulations, Paul is focused upon Christ. Today you can join the Apostle Paul and stay focused upon Christ no matter what happens to you. Think of three things that you can do to increase your focus upon Christ. For example, take time to talk with Jesus about a decision. Make it a priority to share God's love with someone who needs it. Make that call to a friend that you have been putting off. Jesus says loving actions shared in His name are gifts to Him.

Resolve: I seek Christ and Christ alone in the center of my life.

THURSDAY **12-10-09**

Read: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=exodus+20:1-4;7-9;12-20)

Prayer: (Prayer from Bishop Andrewes, 1555-1626) “Take away, O Lord, the veil of my heart while I read the scriptures. Blessed art Thou, O Lord; O teach me Thy statutes! Give me a word, O Word of the Father. Touch my heart; enlighten the understandings of my heart; open my lips and fill them with Thy praise.” Amen.

Journal Reflection: Give thanks to God for the gift of God’s law. A loving Father provides boundaries for his children. Healthy boundaries give children an opportunity to grow into mature adults. Without healthy boundaries, chaos reigns in a family or a nation. Reread God’s boundaries and spend time in prayer asking for guidance on the one that is most difficult for you. Decide today that you will actually live by the laws God has given to you for your health and well being.

Resolve: I will joyously live within God’s boundaries today.

FRIDAY **12-11-09**

Read: John 17:20-26 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=john+17:20-26)

Prayer: I deeply desire to be one with You, Loving God. Nothing is more important in my life! I want to know You better, love You more, and serve You with my whole being. Loving God, I invite You into all of my life. Amen.

Journal Reflection: Jesus tells us in this prayer that oneness with God is possible through a relationship with Him. You do not have to be alone. You do not have to struggle by yourself. You can take time today to invite Jesus into the center of Your heart. You can talk with Christ. And, if you listen, Christ will communicate with you. Honestly evaluate what You need to clean out of your life, so that Jesus can be invited into your heart. Ask Jesus for help in the cleaning! Then, enjoy your relationship with Christ!

Resolve: Oneness with You, Lord Jesus that is my prayer.

SATURDAY **12-12-09**

Read: Psalm 19 (www.biblegateway.com/bible?passage=psalm+19)

Prayer: (Prayer from James Washington) “Thou, who art the eternal God and our Father, hast set before each of us an untraveled way full of beauty and mystery, and calling for courage and the spirit of adventure. Grant us Thy kindly light to lead us onward. To the youth of this day in all nations, give us a vision of Thy purpose for their lives; and to us who are older, grant a return of the wonder which was the glory of our youth and which as we beheld it brought Thy light into our hearts. Oh, let not the wonder fade or the light become darkness, lest we lose our way. In His Name. Amen.”

Journal Reflection: The Creator of the universe desires a relationship with you. Incredible as that seems it is true. The Holy Spirit invites you to celebrate God’s great love for you and the world. Christ invites you to participate with Him in creating God’s New Community right where you live. Observe today all the ways that God is at work! Listen for God’s voice. Be aware of the feeling of the Spirit’s presence. Let the joy of God be in your life today! Then, do something for Christ today!

Resolve: I will celebrate God’s gift of joy in my life.