

Daily Devotional Guide

Tuesday March 24, 2020

A - Approaching God – Start with Prayer

Psalm 119:33–40 — 33 Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes; and I will keep it to the end. 34 Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.
35 Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it. 36 Incline my heart to your testimonies, and not to selfish gain! 37 Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways. 38 Confirm to your servant your promise, that you may be feared.
39 Turn away the reproach that I dread, for your rules are good. 40 Behold, I long for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life!

How does it make you feel that the God of the universe, the one who flung the stars of the sky into being and spoke vast mountains into existence, desires to give you His words of life?

B - Bible Reading, Study & Meditation

Luke 7:36–50 (ESV) — 36 One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and reclined at table. **37** And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, **38** and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. **39** Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner." **40** And Jesus answering said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he answered, "Say it, Teacher." 41 "A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?" **43** Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly." 44 Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. 45 You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. 46 You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. 47 Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven-for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." 48 And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." 49 Then those who were at table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this, who even forgives sins?" **50** And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

Look in God's Word

- Jesus interacts with two characters -- Simon and the "women of the city, a sinner" -- What do you notice about each of these characters?
- Vs. 47 gives us the logic and main idea of the passage What is that main idea?
- What do you learn about the nature and character of Jesus from this story?

Look in Our Own Lives

- Verse 47 says: Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." --- What does your degree and measure of "love" say about how much you have grasped the greatness of your need for forgiveness?
- As an exercise of better grasping God's forgiveness in your life, list out specific sins from the last week for which Jesus has forgiven you (name at least 7):

Look Outward Toward Others

• Jesus says elsewhere "what you do unto the least of these, you do unto me." How might you reveal the depth of what you have been forgiven by loving (or perhaps the forgiving) the "least of these" that are in your life?

Summary: Puritan preacher Thomas Watson once said, "Until sin be bitter, Christ will not be sweet." What he meant was, until we see ourselves for who we truly are apart from Christ—considering the depth of our need, the extent of our brokenness, the totality of our depravity, and the condemnation we deserve—we will not see Christ for all that he truly is.

<u>C</u> - Close in Prayer

- Listen to the song as a help in meditation and leading you to prayer: Lord, Have Mercy by
 Sovereign Grace
- Spend some time rejoicing in and express to the Lord your gratitude for His forgiveness