

Daily Devotional Guide

Wednesday March 25, 2020

<u>A</u> - Approaching God – Start with Prayer

Psalm 16:1, 2, 8 - Keep me safe, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the Lord, "You are my God; apart from you I have no good thing." I keep my eyes always on the LORD. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Father, when I get nervous or afraid, my first thought is to run to something as a refuge. At times that can mean a lot of others things besides you. But right now, there is no one else, nothing else that can bring the security I need besides you. While that has always been true, (apart from you, I have no good thing) I'm more aware of it now than ever. Help me today to keep my eyes on you, and to have your unshakeable presence.

<u>B</u> - Bible Reading & Meditation - Read this passage slowly 2 or 3x's.

Philippians 2:12-16

12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed - not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence - continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,

13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.**14** Do everything without complaining or arguing,

15 so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe16 as you hold out the word of life."

Look in God's Word - Today's passage is shorter. Try reading it slowly, thinking carefully, one verse at time, and be aware of what is standing out to you.

• As you read what are 1 or 2 truths that stand out to you as important. Choose 1 truth that is most significant to you today and write it in a sentence:

Look in Our Own Lives

- · Now ask yourself:
 - How does this truth help me praise God?
 - How does it show me a sin to confess?

- · How does it show me something to ask God for?
- Now turn the answers to the three questions into a prayer rejoice, repent, requests. Take a minute a pray those 3 short prayers. (Lord I rejoice in you for/becuase.... Lord today I repent of...Lord today I ask you for...)

Look Outward Towards Others

• Where in the midst of this strange new season of life have you seen someone "shine like a star," maybe even in a small way? What made that person's action so attractive? What could you do, or who could you bless today to "shine?"

Helps for Kids - (a pastor friend shared this story with me this week) The Grocery Store Lady - This past week as I was driving, I asked Jesus, "what do you want from me during this season of a strange new normal, of being at home more often?" I headed for the grocery store. As I was checking out, making sure I was social distancing, I noticed the checkout worker. She was joyfully welcoming everyone, helping frustrated customers with a cheerful attitude and I just sensed what I believed to be the Lord shining through her. So I said to her, "In a season where things are extremely hard for many people for many reasons, you are doing your job in an amazing way. Keep up the good work." She replied, "Oh, that's just Jesus making His light known through me again!" There was no arrogance; there was no pride; there was no self-righteousness. Only genuine joy.

- How were her actions different from what you might expect at the grocery store from a worker who is tired and listening to people complaining?
- What is one way Jesus can make his light known through you today?

<u>C</u> - Close in Prayer - click to listen to the song and make this your prayer: <u>Take My Life</u>

Take my life and let it be, Consecrated, Lord, to Thee Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands & let them move At the impulse of Thy love Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee. Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from Thee

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold Take my intellect and use every power as You choose Take my will and make it Thine It shall be no longer mine Take my heart, it is Thine own It shall be Thy royal throne

Take my love, my Lordl pour at Your feet its treasure store Take my self and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.