



# KING'S CHAPEL

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## Daily Devotional Guide

Monday March 30, 2020

### A - Approaching God – Start with Prayer

**Psalm 15** - *Who may worship in your sanctuary, LORD? Who may enter your presence on your holy hill? Those who lead blameless lives and do what is right, speaking the truth from sincere hearts. Those who refuse to gossip or harm their neighbors or speak evil of their friends. Those who despise flagrant sinners, and honor the faithful followers of the LORD, and keep their promises even when it hurts. Those who lend money without charging interest, & who cannot be bribed to lie about the innocent. Such people will stand firm forever.*

Who gets to draw near to God? Those who are blameless! What is your first reaction to that statement this morning? David's question - who may enter your presence on your holy hill reminds us of Israel at the foot of Mount Sinai - trembling at God's holiness. This standard not only challenges us, but reminds us we can only go to God through his grace. Start this morning by remembering the perfect integrity and love of Jesus. Psalm 15 is a picture of the spotless character of Jesus. Then consider the grace we have in Him to approach God today.

### B - Bible Reading & Meditation - *Read this passage slowly 2 or 3x's.*

#### **2 Corinthians 5:14-21**

**14** For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; **15** and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. **16** From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. **17** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. **18** All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; **19** that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. **20** Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. **21** For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

#### **Look in God's Word**

- Make a list of 4 or 5 things this passage says about God. (Father, Son & H.S.)

- List 3-4 things it tells you about yourself, humanity, or people in general.
- Are there any words, phrases, or themes that stand out to you as significant?

### **Look in Our Own Lives**

- What does this text show me about God for which I should praise or thank him?
- What does this text show me about a need I have? What do I need to do or become in light of this? How shall I petition God for it?

### **What does the word substitute mean?**

Jesus came to be a substitute . He came to live as one of us—in our place. Jesus was not born merely to be a great moral teacher (although he was) or a spiritual Mr. Rogers who could sweetly guide us into being good boys and girls. No, my need is not for a teacher or even a moral example to follow. I need a substitute. I need someone to take my place and do for me what I can't do for myself. To substitute simply means to replace one thing for something else. Sometimes we substitute artificial sweetener for real sugar in certain recipes. In professional baseball, the American League allows for a stronger slugger, called a designated hitter, to replace a weaker batter in the batting lineup. In Hollywood, a stunt double often replaces a lead actor in performing a dangerous scene. Of course, we're not talking about recipes, baseball or Hollywood. Nevertheless, the concept is similar.

When Jesus went to the cross, he went as a substitute for sinners who had failed to live up to God's standard. (Remember Psalm 15) That is why Paul says, " For our sake [God] made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." This is also the idea in Galatians 3:13, where Paul says, "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us ...". Or as 1 Peter 2:24 says, "He Himself bore our sins in His body on the [cross]." What Paul is saying is that Jesus put himself in my place, taking the consequences for my sin so that I could receive the benefits of his obedience. He bore my guilt so that I could receive his grace.

### **Look Outward Towards Others**

- What do you think Paul means when he talks about the ministry and message of reconciliation? (vs. 18-19) Who has been given this ministry?

### **C - Close in Prayer**

Listen to the Song - [\*Upon a Life I did not Live\*](#) and respond in prayer.