



Journeying Through the Gospels in Lent



**Tuesday
March 18th 2014**

Daily Devotional

“Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall declare your praise”

Welcome to Day twelve as we bless our day and our life by spending a minimum of 5 minutes on each **segment** or **step below; twenty minutes.**

- ✓ **Meditation** [5 minutes of quiet reflection]
- ✓ **Visualization** See what your day will be. With conviction, declare how you want your day to unfold and your intentions toward God, his creation and other people who you will be privileged to meet today. And who will be fortunate to encounter you.
- ✓ **Gratitude:** Thankful for the good happenings in your life. Appreciate where you are NOW from where you WERE then.
- ✓ **Inspirational Reading:** Read an article about a person or a situation that will inspire you today.

Collect

Oh God, who have taught us to chasten our bodies for the healing of our souls, enable us, we pray, to abstain from all sins, and strengthen our hearts to carry out your loving commands. We ask through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

The Readings

Luke 6:36-38

Today's Meditation

“Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate.” The lesson today is about mercy. God's mercy for me first, and my mercy toward others. Today I renew my focus looking at all the ways I am trying to change the pattern of my life that need healing. Lord, do not deal with me as my sins deserve. Do not hold against me the iniquities of my past life; may your compassion quickly come to me, for I am brought very low. Lord, do not deal with me as my sins deserve.

Luke 6:36-38 (MSG)

³⁵⁻³⁶ “I tell you, love your enemies. Help and give without expecting a return. You’ll never—I promise—regret it. Live out this God-created identity the way our Father lives toward us, generously and graciously, even when we’re at our worst. Our Father is kind; you be kind. ³⁷⁻³⁸ “Don’t pick on people, jump on their failures, criticize their faults—unless, of course, you want the same treatment. Don’t condemn those who are down; that hardness can boomerang. Be easy on people; you’ll find life a lot easier. Give away your life; you’ll find life given back, but not merely given back—given back with bonus and blessing. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity.”



Help me, O God my loving savior, because of the glory of your name; Deliver me and pardon my sins for the sake of your name. Lord, do not deal with me as my sins deserve. -- Psalm 79

Today's Reflection

Blessed be God the Father for his gift of this sacrifice of praise. In the spirit of this Lenten season, let us pray "Instruct us, Lord, in the ways of your kingdom. God of power and mercy, give us the spirit of prayer and repentance, with burning love for you and all mankind. Help us to work with you in making all things new in Christ, and in spreading justice and peace throughout the world. Teach us the meaning and value of creation, so that we may join its voice to ours as we sing your praise. Forgive us for failing to see Christ in the poor, the distressed and the troublesome, and for our failure to reverence your Son in their persons.

Closing Prayer

Lord, your commandment of love is so simple and so challenging. Help me to let go of my pride, to be humble in my suffering devotion. I want only to live the way you ask me to love, to love the way you ask me to live. I ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ, who stands at my side today, this very moment and always. Lord I pray for all my brethren who have embrace you and desire and intimate life with you. Strengthen them today to stand against the tricks scheming of the evil one. Lord, may your victory me ours. Hallelujah! Amen

