

Journeying Through the Gospels in Lent



Wednesday
March 26th 2014

Daily Devotional

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

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

- ✓ **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 for Today

Grant, we pray, O Lord, that, schooled through Lenten observance and nourished by your word, through holy restraint, we may be devoted to you with all our hearts and be ever united in prayer. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Today's Readings


Psalm 147:12- 20; Matthew 5:17-19

Today's Meditation

Lord, make us one in love and prayer. This was a special liturgy in the early church focused on the unity of the faithful community. On this day when the community prayed so earnestly for those about to be baptized, we can feel the power of asking that we too be made one with God's people, everywhere

Matthew 5:17-20 (MSG) Completing God's Law

¹⁷⁻¹⁸ “Don’t suppose for a minute that I have come to demolish the Scriptures—either God’s Law or the Prophets. I’m not here to demolish but to complete. I am going to put it all together, pull it all together in a vast panorama. God’s Law is more real and lasting than the stars in the sky and the ground at your feet. Long after stars burn out and earth wears out, God’s Law will be alive and working.” ¹⁹⁻²⁰ “Trivialize even the smallest item in God’s Law and you will only have trivialized yourself. But take it seriously, show the way for others, and you will find honor in the kingdom. Unless you do far better than the Pharisees in the matters of right living, you won’t know the first thing about entering the kingdom.”



We might reflect upon what it is that divides us, and what I might do to let the Spirit of Unity draw us together.

I want all of them to be one with each other, just as I am one with you and you are one with me. I also want them to be one with us. Then the people of this world will believe that you sent me. Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper was "*for everyone else who will have faith because of what my followers will say about me.*" John 17:21

Today's Reflection


Blessed be God, the giver of salvation, who decreed that mankind should become a new creation in himself, when all would be made new. With great confidence let us ask him: Lord, renew us in your Spirit.

Lord, you promised a new heaven and a new earth; renew us daily through your Spirit, that we may enjoy your presence for ever in the heavenly Jerusalem. Help us to work with you to make this world alive with your Spirit and to build on earth a city of justice, love and peace. Free us from all negligence and sloth, and give us joy in your gifts of grace. Deliver us from evil and from slavery to the senses, which blinds us to a healthy relationship with your Spirit. You remind us that what the Spirit desires is not what the Flesh desires. Lord, what you require of us is to immerse ourselves in you and grow in your goodness.

Closing Prayer

Loving Father, my Lord and God, you have been loving me as your own child. May I bend my life and will toward you so that I might accept your teachings and guidance. I am so grateful for your presence and support in my life, now and in the eternal life you are preparing for me. I reverently pray each day, especially today, for your help and Spirit in my life. Guide me oh Thou great Jehovah, a pilgrim journeying through this challenging life.

*May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.*



Psalm 147:12-20 (MSG)

¹²⁻¹⁸ Jerusalem, worship God! Zion, praise your God! He made your city secure,
he blessed your children among you.
He keeps the peace at your borders,
he puts the best bread on your tables.
He launches his promises earthward—
how swift and sure they come!
He spreads snow like a white fleece,
he scatters frost like ashes,
He broadcasts hail like birdseed— who can survive his winter? Then he gives the command and it all melts; he breathes on winter—suddenly it's spring!

¹⁹⁻²⁰ He speaks the same way to Jacob,
speaks words that work to Israel.
He never did this to the other nations;
they never heard such commands.
Hallelujah

