

Journeying Through the Gospels in Lent



**Friday
March 14th 2014**

Daily Devotional

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

Welcome to Day eight 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.

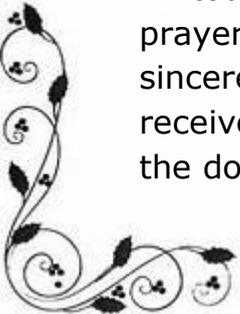
Collect:

Bestow on us, we pray, O Lord, a spirit of always pondering on what is right and of hastening to carry it out, and, since without you we cannot exist, may we be enabled to live according to your will. 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.

The Reading

Matthew 7:7-12

Daily Meditation:

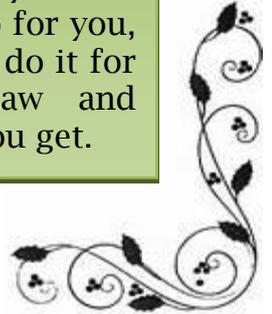


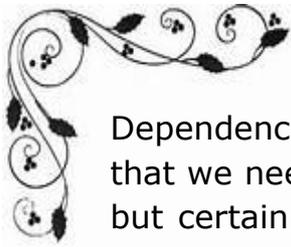
Help us to be eager in doing your will. In today's lesson we learn more about prayer. We hear with a freshness how sincerely Jesus invites us to: ask and receive, seek and find, knock and find the door opened.

Matthew 7:7-12 (MSG)

⁷⁻¹¹ “Don’t bargain with God. Be direct. Ask for what you need. This isn’t a cat-and-mouse, hide-and-seek game we’re in. If your child asks for bread, do you trick him with sawdust? If he asks for fish, do you scare him with a live snake on his plate? As bad as you are, you wouldn’t think of such a thing. You’re at least decent to your own children. So don’t you think the God who conceived you in love will be even better?”

¹² “Here is a simple, rule-of-thumb guide for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you, then grab the initiative and do it for *them*. Add up God’s Law and Prophets and this is what you get.”





Dependence is not a virtue we ordinarily admire. Today we grow in our sense that we need God's presence and grace very much; even to know what is right but certainly to fan our desires into a flame. Lord, today as I called for help, answer me. Psalm 138

Today's Reflection

The Lord Jesus Christ, came into the world and dwell in me as the light of the world, that I might walk in his light, and not in the darkness of death. Today I am again praising him and crying out to him: Let your word be a lamp to guide me. God of mercy, help me today to grow in your likeness, that I who have sinned in Adam might rise again in Christ.

Let your word be a lamp to guide me, that I may live the truth and grow always in your love. Teach me to be faithful in seeking the common good for your sake, of which you have invited me to be a privilege member, that your light may shine on the whole human family by means of your Church . Touch my heart to seek your intimate friendship more and more, and to make amends for my sins against your wisdom and goodness.

Closing Prayer

Lord, I am not always eager to do your will. I often much rather do my own will, make my own decisions and follow my own instinct. Please be with me on this Lenten journey and help me to remember that your own spirit can guide me in the right direction. I want to "fix" my weaknesses but the task seems overwhelming. Lord, I know that with your help, anything can be done. With a grateful heart, I acknowledge your love and know that without you, I can do nothing.

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

