



Monday, May 28, 2012

READ- The Psalter: Psalm 29

This is one of the oldest psalms in the canon, probably dating back to a time in which Israel believed there were many gods, but YHWH was the supreme being. The emphasis here is on God's absolute power and might over everything in the universe.

REFLECT-

- Sometimes we need to be reminded that the God to whom we pray each day is also the God who created all that exists and all things are under his will. Focus on verse 11 for today: in what parts of your life do you especially need God's strength and his peace?

PRAY-

O powerful God, I praise you and give thanks that, even though you are ruler of the universe, you still love and care for me. Amen.

Tuesday, May 29, 2012

READ- The Epistle: Romans 8:12-17

Paul acknowledges to the Roman church the brokenness of human beings, their culture and society, and even the natural world. But despite our sin that has created this brokenness, we are God's beloved children and have the promise of a new creation through Christ.

REFLECT-

- It was tough for those Roman Christians to keep the faith in their circumstances. It is tough for us today at Christians to live in ways that are counter to our culture. We must have hope. Paul reminds us here of a hope that is eternal. In what area of your life do you need that hope today?

PRAY-

Father, it is hard for us to be patient. When there is so much suffering and evil in the world, sometimes we get discouraged. Renew our hope. Amen.

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

READ- The Old Testament: Isaiah 6:1-8

Isaiah's vision of the Lord God upon his throne, attended by angels gives us a wonderful example of worship. There is praise to God, confession of sin, forgiveness of sin and a sending forth to do God's work in the world.

REFLECT-

- Each of us has work to do for God – we have a vocation to which God calls us. You may already know that place of service and have said, like Isaiah, "Here am I, send me." If you have not yet responded to that calling, spend some time in prayer asking for God's guidance in that process.

PRAY-

Father, give me wisdom, courage and energy to do your work and share your love in the world. Amen.

Thursday, May 31, 2012

READ- The Gospel: John 3:1-17

Under the cover of darkness, a good Pharisee risked his reputation by coming to Jesus to ask his burning questions. But Nicodemus' need to figure it out and to have what Jesus told him agree with what he believed to be true kept him from receiving the gift Jesus offered him – eternal life.

REFLECT-

- What is standing in the way of you fully accepting God's gift to you? Are you willing to step out in faith as Abraham did without having to have all the answers first?

PRAY-

O God, help me to trust you completely even though I may not always understand your ways. Help me to be bold today, living out my faith in ways that glorify you. Amen

Friday, June 1, 2012

ACT-

Focus Verse: Romans 8:14

For all who are led by the Spirit are children of God.

What does it mean to be "led by the Spirit"? Does it mean you must speak in tongues or worship in a charismatic fashion? Does it mean that you get clear, concise messages telling you God's plans for you each day? The experiences of those in the bible who claimed to be led by God's Spirit were usually much simpler and more subtle than those things and more to do with simple obedience than flashy supernatural events. Most often, the Spirit nudges, leads or pushes us through a "still, small voice", through the words or actions of others, or through unexpected circumstances. If we can respond with childlike trust, stepping out into sometimes new territory, allowing ourselves to be led by the hand, we can accomplish much for our Father. Try that today.