



Monday, October 22, 2012

READ- The Old Testament: Job 42:1-6, 10-17

After God speaks to Job from the whirlwind, Job expresses his regret and humility in the presence of a great and omnipotent God. He confesses that he now understands there are simply things we humans cannot understand about God ways and power. And God restores all he has lost plus more.

REFLECT-

- There are many things about the suffering of this life that we cannot understand, but we can always be assured that God is with us through it all, giving us strength and restoring us in many ways. How has God lifted you up and restored you in times of suffering?

PRAY-

Lord, we thank you that although you are God of the universe, you still love and care for us and will never leave us. Amen.

Tuesday, October 23, 2012

READ- The Psalter: Psalm 34:1-8, 19-22

The psalmist gives testimony to the goodness of God in his life, God's provision for his needs, God's compassion for those who are suffering or in need. He offers praise and thanksgiving for all that God has done for him and for others who have called upon God and live according to his commandments.

REFLECT-

- Think back over the past 24 hours of your life. For what do you have to give thanks to God? How do you see God's hand at work in your life and the lives of those around? In what ways has God provided for your needs and cared for you as you needed it?

PRAY-

Lord, I give you thanks and praise for the all ways you work in my life and in the world. Help me to be an instrument of your care and compassion for others who may be hurting or in need today. Amen.

Wednesday, October 24, 2012

READ- The Epistle: Hebrews 7:23-28

When Moses led the people, he was instructed to create a holy priesthood from Aaron and his descendants who were to intercede on behalf of the people for forgiveness of sins. Jesus, as God's great high priest, has made a sufficient sacrifice of himself for the whole world and now stands by the throne of God to intercede for us all.

REFLECT-

- Jesus must be the ultimate spiritual leader of our lives. Only by living by his example, following his teachings, and listening in prayer for the direction of his Spirit can we be obedient.

PRAY-

O God, thank you for sending your Son who loves us and gave himself for us so that we might be forgiven and restored. Amen.

Thursday, October 25, 2012

READ- The Gospel: Mark 10:46-52

The blind beggar was persistent in calling out for Jesus. He had nothing to lose even if the folks around him thought he was not worthy of the rabbi's time. Jesus hears his cry, has compassion, and asks what he needs. His request for his sight is simple and direct and is granted.

REFLECT-

- We can learn from Bartimaeus in our own prayer life. We should never hesitate to ask God for what we need and we must be persistent about it. Sometimes the response is not immediate or we simply don't see or understand it, but Jesus tells us to ask and seek in simple faith and God will provide for us.

PRAY-

Father, grant that we may see clearly today all the opportunities we have to glorify you by loving those around us. Amen.

Friday, October 26, 2012

ACT-

Focus Verse: Job 42:1-2

"Then Job answered the Lord, "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted."

Is there some concern or situation on your heart and mind today that feels like it cannot possibly be resolved for good? Is there a broken relationship, a health situation, a lost job – maybe a concern for our nation and world that seems hopeless? Job affirmed, after all his suffering, that God's purposes will always be accomplished, whether we see and understand them or not. Often, it is years later in our life when we look back at something that felt impossible at the time and see how God worked for good in remarkable ways. As you go about your day, look for ways – great and small – that you can see God working in your life, the lives of others and in the world around us. We have the assurance from Christ that God's purposes are always for good for those who love him and call on his name. ways for good for those who love him and call on his name.