

**Subject:** Daily Prayer 19th August 2020  
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Good morning

Welcome and before we begin let's be still and quiet.....

Lord God, open our eyes to your presence, our ears to your call,  
open our hearts to your love, that we may be aware of you and your coming to us.  
In Jesus name. AMEN

### **Psalm 23**

#### **The Divine Shepherd**

A Psalm of David.

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;  
he restores my soul.  
He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff—  
they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
my whole life long.

### **Matthew 20:1-16**

#### **The Labourers in the Vineyard**

'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing

around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

## **Reflection**

As we know, these workers were jealous and they grumbled. Are we ever jealous or resentful when someone else receives a gift, acclaim, or praise for an act that we think they didn't deserve or earn? Jealousy and resentment may not affect the other person; however, it does affect us! It can eat away at us and make us miserable. When we compare ourselves to others, we may judge ourselves to be above them or below them. Both judgments damage the other person as well as ourselves. God is the one who will judge in fairness and truth. We do not have the right to judge others and yet we do it all the time! Most of us have been gifted with abundant blessings. Today may we give thanks for the gifts and graces that we have received and let's thank God for the many gifts we have been given! May we let go of judgment, envy, and jealousy. If we choose to do this, we will be happier and more peaceful. AMEN

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. AMEN

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. AMEN

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
In the name of Christ. AMEN

Blessings and love  
Vicky xx