

**Subject:** Daily Prayer 31st August 2020  
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Good morning everyone

As usual shall we take a few moments to be still and quiet before we begin.....

Father, we know that you love and care for us.  
May we show the same love for others.  
We ask your blessing upon all who are outcasts or refugees, all who have been made homeless and have nowhere to go.  
In Jesus Name we pray. AMEN

### **Psalm 33:12-21**

Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD,  
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

The LORD looks down from heaven;  
he sees all humankind.  
From where he sits enthroned he watches  
all the inhabitants of the earth—  
he who fashions the hearts of them all,  
and observes all their deeds.  
A king is not saved by his great army;  
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.  
The war horse is a vain hope for victory,  
and by its great might it cannot save.

Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,  
on those who hope in his steadfast love,  
to deliver their soul from death,  
and to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul waits for the LORD;  
he is our help and shield.  
Our heart is glad in him,  
because we trust in his holy name.

### **Luke 4:16-30**

#### **The Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth**

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:  
'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.' All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, 'Is not this Joseph's son?' He said to them, 'Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, "Doctor, cure yourself!" And you will say, "Do here also in your home town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum." ' And he said, 'Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up for three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.' When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

## Reflection

Our initial reaction to this Gospel might be shock or dismay due to the reaction of his neighbours and friends. Imagine the mixture of emotions that Jesus must have experienced in these moments. These were the people who had watched him grow up, who thought they knew him. He had grown up with them, played with them, eaten in their homes and worshiped with them in the temple. Yet, now they were rejecting him simply because he was acting in a way they did not expect him to act. And sadly they refused to listen to him because he had a wisdom and knowledge far beyond any person in Nazareth. Luke writes: "He was too much for them!" Can you identify with Jesus? Have there been times in your life when you were rejected because you were not the person a family member, friend or church official expected you to be? I assume so. Even good people get jealous, envious and angry at times. And have there been situations in your life when you rejected another person because they were not being the person you wanted them to be? I would assume that all of us have been on both sides of this fence. Today I invite you to be mindful of your judgment of the people you encounter. It is true that judgment often is automatic and almost unconscious. However, when we become aware we are judging another, we then can choose to step back from judgment and let God be the Judge. It will not only free the other person, it also will free us! 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