

Subject: Daily Prayer 10th September 2020
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Good morning again

Why not rest and be quiet before we begin.....

Holy and ever loving God,
we thank you for the forgiveness of sins and the opportunity to start anew.
We pray that you will fill our hearts with goodness
and our minds with love.
That we may learn to forgive others as you so generously forgive us.
In Jesus name we pray. AMEN

Psalm 139

The Inescapable God

To the leader. Of David. A Psalm.
O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
 you discern my thoughts from far away.
You search out my path and my lying down,
 and are acquainted with all my ways.
Even before a word is on my tongue,
 O LORD, you know it completely.
You hem me in, behind and before,
 and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
 it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go from your spirit?
 Or where can I flee from your presence?
If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
 if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
If I take the wings of the morning
 and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

Luke 6:27-38

Love for Enemies

'But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

'If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Judging Others

'Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.'

Reflection

Wow what wise Christian advice!

"Do unto others as you would have them do to you." We have to ask ourselves whether we carry this out - Do we do unto others as we would like them to do unto us? I think that we could have a variety of responses.

"I try to live this way, however, there are some people who simply drive me crazy." Or

"I can do that with most people but there is one person who deeply wounded me, and I simply am unable to forgive that person."

Jesus then says: "If you love the people who love you, what credit is that for you? Even the pagans do this. Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning others and you will not be condemned!"

Jesus then states: "Forgive and you will be forgiven. The measure you give will be the measure that is returned to you." When Jesus instructs us to love our enemies, he does not mean that this person should become one of our best friends. Jesus understands that forgiving is first a decision. However, it also is a process. The path to forgiveness may take a long time, and understandably so. However, we have to **choose** to take the first step. No one can force us to take this step; we are the only ones who can make this decision. And in reality, it may take a long time before we are ready and willing to begin the process of forgiveness.

Let's pray for Jesus to help us in this long and difficult path. 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
