



Rhythm OF WORSHIP

A W O R S H I P L E A D E R ' S

Weekly Devotional

Monday Sept. 28 - Sunday Oct. 4, 2020

The Cost of Following Jesus

Thoughts

As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. When...

Luke 9:51-62

Following Jesus has a cost. Some have paid to the fullest extent giving their life as a martyr. In fact it is believed with a reasonable amount of certainty that every apostle except John died for his faith. Most followers however are not called to be martyrs, but all followers are called to die to their self and become a new creation in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17, Gal. 2:20). In Luke 9:57, Jesus begins to call 3 men to follow him. Each man has his own excuse why it's not a good time to follow Jesus. Jesus shares His thoughts about their decisions in the coming verses. These men may want to follow Jesus, but they are unwilling to put Jesus first in the pecking order of their priorities.

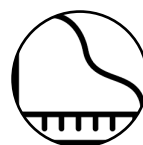
Reflections

* This week, I need to repent of...

* What are the areas in my life where Jesus is playing "second fiddle"?

* What are the most common excuses I make in my flesh for not pursuing Christ in the way my spirit desires?

* Do I engage in spiritual disciplines like prayer, singing and reading Scripture out of obligation? Or could I flip the script and begin to do these things BECAUSE I am fully known, fully loved and I desire to know and love God more?



Prayer

FATHER OF MERCIES

Hear me for Jesus' sake.
I am sinful even in my closest walk with You;
It is of Your mercy I died not long ago;

Your grace has given me faith in the cross
by which You have reconciled Yourself to me and me to You,
drawing me by Your great love,
reckoning me as innocent in Christ though guilty in myself.

Giver of all graces,
I look to You for strength to maintain them in me,
for it is hard to practice what I believe.

Strengthen me against temptations.
My heart is a continuous fountain of sin,
a river of corruption since childhood days,
flowing on in every pattern of behavior;

You have disarmed me of the means
in which I trusted,
and I have no strength but in You.
You alone can hold back my evil ways,
but without Your grace to sustain me I fall.

Satan's darts quickly inflame me, and the shield that should quench them easily drops
from my hand:

Empower me against his wiles and assaults.
Keep me sensible of my weakness,
and of my dependence upon Your strength.
Let every trial teach me more of Your peace, more of Your love.

Your Holy Spirit is given to increase Your graces,
and I cannot preserve or improve them
unless he works continually in me.
May he confirm my trust in Your promised help,
and let me walk humbly in dependence
upon You, for Jesus' sake.

adapted from "The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions"

SONGS AND ART

1. KING OF KINGS

"To reveal the kingdom coming"

2. ALL PRAISE (SING PRAISE)

"Amazing grace which far outweighs my past mistakes"

3. LION AND THE LAMB

"Kings and kingdoms will bow down"

[CLICK HERE FOR YOUTUBE PLAYLIST](#)



A colorful mosaic recently found in an ancient church in Israel appears to depict a miracle Jesus is said to have performed nearby -- the feeding of the 5,000 -- archaeologists say.

The discovery was made in the "Burnt Church" in Hippos, an archaeological site on a mountain a mile east of the Sea of Galilee. The church was built around 1,500 years ago and destroyed by fire in the early 7th century AD.

Psalm 25

¹ In you, Lord my God, I put my trust.

² I trust in you; do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

³ No one who hopes in you will ever be put to shame,
but shame will come on those who are treacherous without cause.

⁴ Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths.

⁵ Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

⁶ Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love,
for they are from of old.

⁷ Do not remember the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways;
according to your love remember me,
for you, Lord, are good.

⁸ Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.

⁹ He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way.

¹⁰ All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful
toward those who keep the demands of his covenant.

¹¹ For the sake of your name, Lord, forgive my iniquity, though it is great.

¹² Who, then, are those who fear the Lord?

He will instruct them in the ways they should choose.

¹³ They will spend their days in prosperity, and their descendants will inherit the land.

¹⁴ The Lord confides in those who fear him; he makes his covenant known to them.

¹⁵ My eyes are ever on the Lord, for only he will release my feet from the snare.

¹⁶ Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.

¹⁷ Relieve the troubles of my heart and free me from my anguish.

¹⁸ Look on my affliction and my distress and take away all my sins.

¹⁹ See how numerous are my enemies and how fiercely they hate me!

²⁰ Guard my life and rescue me; do not let me be put to shame,
for I take refuge in you.

²¹ May integrity and uprightness protect me,
because my hope, Lord, is in you.

²² Deliver Israel, O God, from all their troubles!