

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

Matthew 26:41 NAS95

“Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation;
the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

TODAY'S QUOTE

I live in the spirit of prayer. I pray as I walk about,
when I lie down and when I rise up.
And the answers are always coming.

George Muller

TODAY'S PRAYER

O Lord, who loves with an everlasting love,
cause your light and life and love to shine into my heart,
that my being may be transfigured and
that people may turn from me to glorify you.

PRAYER REQUEST

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS AT 9:30

FOR INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY AND DISCUSSION

PAST MESSAGES - ON VIMEO

SEE US ON FACEBOOK LIVE

THURSDAYS AT 6:30 PM

SUNDAYS AT 9:00 AM

Encouragement to Prayer

For from him and through him and to him are all things.

(Romans 11:36)

The realization that faith is the gift of God should encourage us to pray with confidence for others' salvation. It means that no one, however hardened he or she may be, is beyond the regenerating, life-creating work of the Holy Spirit. I think of some for whose salvation I pray regularly. One wants nothing to do with God. Another is happily indifferent, seeing no need of a Savior because he's a good, moral person. Others would be highly insulted to be told they need a Savior because, after all, they're both moral and religious.

What hope is there for these people? It lies only in the sovereign, mysterious work of the Holy Spirit. I pray regularly that He'll work in their hearts through the gospel message to create the faith they must have to believe in Christ.

Awareness that faith is the gift of God should also arouse a sense of profound gratitude and worship in our hearts. We could not even take advantage of God's gracious gift of salvation apart from His prior working in our hearts. But God gave us life when we were dead, gave us sight when we were blind, and gave us the faith to trust in Christ for our salvation. If we spent the rest of our lives doing nothing but saying thank-you to God, we could still never sufficiently express our gratitude for His gift of salvation, including the gift of faith by which we receive it. Do you want to grow in your own worship of God? That growth will be directly related to your understanding of the gospel in all its fullness, including the fact that the faith by which you believed was a gift from God.

Bridges Holiness

Holy Heartburn

"Did not our heart burn within us!"

Luke 24:32

These Emmaus disciples were half-believing, "We trusted that it had been he...", and half-doubting, "Today is the third day." So of course they were sad. And Jesus walked with them but their eyes were blind. Is he a veiled Christ to you? "Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me?" (John 14:9).

They were "slow of heart to believe all that the prophets had spoken" (Luke 24:25). Better slow of head to understand than slow of heart to believe! To know the Bible by memory is not to know it "by heart." To know it "by heart" is to hide "thy Word," the great possession, "in my heart," the great place, "that I might not sin against thee," the great purpose.

On this Emmaus journey our Lord is the great Opener. He opened the Scriptures, he opened their eyes, he opened their understanding. But he began with the Scriptures which produced holy heartburn. The church needs nothing else so much as a holy heartburn that all the dopes of the devil and the sedatives of sin cannot deaden.

When their eyes were opened they went back those seven miles to Jerusalem and I do not believe they were weary for they had seen the Lord. Now they had a testimony and as they gave it, he appeared again, as he always does when men truly testify as to "what things were done in the way."

Are your eyes closed? Let him open to you the Scriptures that your heart may burn, and open your eyes that you may see!

Consider Jesus: and other brief devotionals.

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