

## *Good News Daily*

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### **Sunday, May 15**

Hebrews 12:1-14 *Pursue peace with all men and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.* (v.14 NAS)

My church's motto is "Preach the gospel, love people, and trust God." The writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews tells us to lay aside the sin that so easily entangles us and to run with endurance the race that is set before us (v.1). It seems that our church motto is a good plan for doing just that!

We need to pursue peace with everyone. In our divided world where so many voices spew out hate and division, we need to daily proclaim the gospel, love people, and trust God. Then we will experience the sanctification that help us see God.

Dear God, please help me proclaim the gospel, love people, and trust You.

Leviticus 8:1-13, 30-36; Psalms 24, 29; Luke 4:16-30

Include in your prayers: Our country; for wisdom and guidance for our leaders and the leaders of all nations; for our armed forces and their families, especially those now in danger and any continuing to struggle, including Cameron Fraser; for our enemies; for peace – especially in Ukraine, justice and reconciliation in all places where there is conflict, especially among the peoples of the Middle East; for Haiti and Bondeau; and for Todd and Patsy McGregor and their work with SAMS training missionaries.

### **Monday, May 16**

Psalms 56 *When I am afraid, I will put my trust in Thee, in God whose word I praise. In God I have put my trust, I shall not be afraid.* (vv.3-4a)

As we look at the future we are often filled with fear about our health, our jobs, our finances, and our relationships. The psalmist helps us remember that we can trust in God.

I like to use Psalm 91 as a reminder that I can trust in Him, starting with verse 14. God is speaking: "Because (your name) has loved Me therefore I will deliver (her/him). I will set (her/him) on high because (she/he) has known My name. (She/he) will call upon Me and I will deliver (her/him). With long life will I satisfy (her/him) and grant (her/him) My salvation."

Thanks so much, God, that I can trust in You.

Leviticus 16:1-19; Psalms 57, 58; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

**Include in your prayers:** Ricardo Acuña, Rick Anderson, Joanna Aras, Karin Armbruster, Lou Augone, Kay Bailey, Liz Bardin, Todd Baron, Wally and Evelyne Bates, James Baur, Nicholas Beswick, Joe Bishop, Lance Block, Kelley Bonneau, Brad Brett and Linda Johnson-Brett, Abigail Browne, Ray Browne, Helen Bruner, Bill Buttner, Linton and Gloria Chung, and Nico Clothier.

### **Tuesday, May 17**

Matthew 6:7-15 *"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will forgive you."* (v.14)

Jesus has just taught the disciples the Lord's Prayer after they ask him to "teach us how to pray." Often people will say, "I'll forgive but I won't forget" Jesus says if we don't forgive (and forget) our heavenly Father won't forgive us. It is only with the help of the Holy Spirit that we can forgive. It is a gift we can bestow on others. We are to cast all our cares on God because He cares for us. Vengeance is the Lord's work, not ours.

Remember, we promise in the Lord's Prayer to forgive as we have been forgiven. Our Father, forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Leviticus 16:20-34; Psalms 61, 62; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

**Include in your prayers:** Martin Conlon, Shirley Connell, Robert Connell, Ray Constable, Alan Costa, Cindy Croushore, Christian Darby, Joe and Connie D'Alessandro, Ruth Dans, Joseph Devan, Dave and Marion Downing, Lynn Duncan, Rachel Dwyer, George Dzama III, Nolan Eicher, Mary Fietze, Drew Fogg, the French family, Charlie Gasperino, Jenne GlenDenning, Jake Graybill, Janie Greene, and Dennis and Janet Grote

### **Wednesday, May 18**

Leviticus 19:1-18 *"You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the sons of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the LORD."* (v.18)

Moses is giving God's laws to the children of Israel. These are the ways the world will know that they are God's chosen people. Loving your neighbor is one often more difficult to obey but is a mark of obedience to our Heavenly Father.

Father Kevin sees a spiritual parallel in the movie *The Sound of Music*: as Maria was a bridge of Captain von Trapp's love for his children, so Jesus is the bridge carrying the Father's love to His earthly children, and we can be a bridge of Jesus' love between His Father and our earthly brothers and sisters.

Lord, help me to love my neighbors as I love myself.

Psalm 72; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28; Matthew 6:19-24

**Include in your prayers:** Joe Hagerty, Leslie Hahn, Madeline Hanlon, Patty Hart, Hank Hawken, Shirley Hazen, Pam Heatley, Tom Henry, Sally Honeyman, Mary Imle, Cindy Islip, Stephen Johnson, Jr. and Jennifer Corson, Arlene Joseph and her daughter, Kristian Joseph, Jacqui Kapinowski, Sarah Lawler, Jeff LeFevre, Frank Lepore, Becky Mahoney's family, Patricia Malloy, Elaine Mariggio, Priscilla Marshall, Steve McCue, and Joey Mitchell.

### **Thursday, May 19**

Psalm 71 *Thou art my rock and fortress. Thou art my confidence.* (vv.3c, 5b)

Our God is the giver of second chances. As we read in the Old Testament of His dealings with the children of Israel, He is always giving them another chance. He is bringing them back from captivity and restoring their nation. On the cross, Jesus is giving another chance to the thief who was crucified with him. And he is daily bringing us back into fellowship with himself.

The enemy of our souls is constantly tempting us and trying to draw us away from our Good Shepherd. We need to stay in his fortress and walk with him daily.

Thanks, Jesus, that you are our rock and fortress; and keep giving us a second chance.

Leviticus 19:26-37; Psalm 70; 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12; Matthew 6:25-34

Include in your prayers: Bob Montheard and Pam DeFelice, Ashley Munoz, Mindy Nash, Sammera & Dash Parker, Peter Pawlikowski, Joe Pellegrini, Sal & Colleen Perrone, Chris Peters, Tim Phillips, Brook Pitman, Marcia Pollard, Jim and Jerre Rannie, Debbie Rannie, Carlos Salmán, Arnie Selna, Tammy Simpson, Sally and the Thomas family.

### **Friday, May 20**

Psalm 106:1-18 *O give thanks to the Lord.* (v.1)

We may be six months away from our national day of Thanksgiving, but it is time to check on our "attitude of gratitude." It is so important to daily thank our loving Heavenly Father for all His blessings. I find it helpful to write down at least three to five blessings each day. On a day with many problems, it lifts me up to go back and read my blessings-list and remember God's great mercy in my life.

For a richer prayer life I use my five fingers to remember these "tips for action in prayer":

A - adoration, worship, and praise God for His holiness

C - confession of my sin, as I come into His holy presence

T - thanksgiving for all His goodness to me

I - intercession for the needs of others

P - petition for my needs

Thanks, dear Lord, for all Your blessings; I praise and worship You.

Leviticus 23:1-22; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-17; Matthew 7:1-12

Include in your prayers: Amanda Smith, Brian Smith and family, Howard Smith, Kathryn Smith, Melissa Smith, Philip Smith, Allison Spencer, Diane Spero, Rob Steiner, Roger Thomas, Phil Toren, Keith van Cleave, Patricia Vreeland, Dianne Warley, Grace Wasko, Karen Weitz, George Whiteley, Wendy Williams, Peter and Mirabelle Wrist, Ray Wrist, Ric Wrist, and Bunny Wullschleger.

**Saturday, May 21**

2 Thessalonians 3:1-18 *But the Lord is faithful, He will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one... do not grow weary in doing good... now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance... The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.* (vv.3, 13, 16, 18)

The apostle Paul is giving his blessings to the believers in the church of the Thessalonians. He gives words of comfort, strength, and hope to the faithful. How wonderful it is for us to give this kind of encouragement to our family, fellow believers, and friends. Help me open my lips and show forth Your praise, dear Lord.

When we write to our family, friends, and fellow believers, do we remember to enclose a Bible verse? When we end a phone call, do we remember to say, "God bless you"? We need to share encouraging words of faith and receive that blessing in return. Dear Lord, please help my words be a blessing to others

Leviticus 23:23-44; Psalms 75, 76; Matthew 7:13-21

Include in your prayers: Clay, Dale Anne, Debbie, Jay, JoAnn, Laurette, Laurie, Lindy, Marguerite, Marilyn, Marty, Meg and family, Nancy and Stan, Noelle, Pat, Trish, and Victoria and family.

*by Jacqueline Littleford*

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