

WEEK THREE

—Sunday—

All of creation is your servant — how amazing! Fix your word in my heart as you have established it in heaven. How unselfish — lavish — and practical you are in giving! I want to worship you that I too can be unselfish.



PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

“For ever, O Lord, thy word is firmly fixed in the heavens. Thy faithfulness endures to all generations; thou hast established the earth, and it stands fast. By thy appointments they stand this day; for all things are thy servants” (Psa. 119:89-91). The qualities associated with your creative power are often mentioned in this beautiful psalm. As permanent as heaven so permanent is your word. What a source of confidence and strength for all men is this promise! The heavens we can see and the heavens we cannot see will sooner dissolve and disappear before one word you have spoken will fail to be fulfilled. How many generations had lived upon earth before the psalmist wrote these words? How many generations have lived since the day when the words were penned? How many generations will live upon this earth before Jesus comes again? In not one generation has one word of yourself failed of fulfillment. Praise your name!

Express yourself in adoration for this quality of God. Speak it audibly or write out your praise in your own devotional journal.

PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT HE MEANS TO ME

Just for me. Since you through the psalmist spoke these words, we know much more about the relationship of this little planet to the galaxy in which we are a very small part. Our estimate of you increases upon each exploration of space. The laws you set in operation are sustaining all we see in space. What the psalmist said 900 years before your Son came we can say this day 2,000 years since he came. If he should remain with you another 5,000 years we could repeat these words and find every one of them true! Glory to your name and power! How glad I am to acknowledge “. . . all things are thy servants”! Since you do not live in *time* it is very easy to agree with this truth. Ultimately all men and angels will agree with this statement. This servant wants to express it now!

How do you personally relate to the greatness of God, and God who is above all? Speak it out or write it out. It is so important that you establish your own devotional journal.

CONFESSION OF SIN

If your word is so firmly fixed in heaven, how is it that it is not much more fixed in my heart? There is someone who is intent on disrupting your word, i.e., defeating your purposes. He is only a created being and his power is related to man and other angels. I am simply delighted to say that his influence relates *not at all* to your essential being. Satan has not carried out one single act without your permission. The evil one's actions relate to man. Of course, this involves me. More and more I am becoming aware of reality. Man does *not* live by the sensate responses of this life. Man really has life only when he is directed by your word. The more I can relate your word to every hour of every day the more full of peace and joy I will be.

What personal sins do you want to confess? We must speak them to remove them. Do it! Now. There is no one else you have sinned against more than God. Tell him so!

SING A PRAYER TO GOD

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

Open your hymn book and sing the rest of the verses — or even sing another prayer song.

HIS WORD

¹²In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

¹³“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.” —Matthew 7:12-14, NIV
Read also Luke 6:37-49.

READ HIS WORD TO HIM

If I waited until I was ready to say all I want to say in the most meaningful manner possible I would be waiting when you called me home. It is somewhat easy to understand your meaning, i.e., I am to put myself in my neighbor's place and do to him just what I would want him to do to me. The problem is I am not my neighbor. To compound the problem, I do not want to be my neighbor. What I am saying so poorly is that my overpowering selfishness shuts me out from this kind of identity. Could I be so bold as to refer to such an attitude as the “narrow gate”? There are two cities toward which all men move: *Destruction* or *Life*. The choice is made at the gate.

Please express your response to this beautiful text. Put your expression in your own prayer diary.

READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

Dear Lord, for today and its opportunities and relationships help me to be interested enough in all men to try to take their place and respond accordingly. Most of all may I adopt in every relationship the mind of Christ. Every decision of life is a gate — my mind-set will determine how I shall enter that opportunity, and just how I will travel that road. It would seem my Lord intended to say to me that I will need to look, and even to at times search for his way before I can find it. Dear Lord, keep me aware that I will be lonesome for companions on the narrow way. I will act many times against custom and convention. Keep me aware of the end of the easy way; destruction! One day many men will discover to their eternal sorrow that “all they spent their lives for was nothing but dust and ashes.” My Lord, I plan on finding your way for each choice today!

It is so important that you pause in his presence and either audibly or in written form tell him all his word means to you.

READ HIS WORD IN THANKSGIVING

(1) Thank you for the wonderful complete application of the golden rule. (2) Thank you for the summation of the principle of the law and prophets in one verse. (3) Thank you that I do want to find your way for each choice. (4) Dear Lord, thank you that I can leave the many and walk with you. (5) Thank you that I feel no smugness about my need for your way. (6) Thank you for the way of life here and hereafter. (7) Thank you that I really do not mind being different.

Give yourself to your own expression of gratitude — write it or speak it!

READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

“... and few are they that find it.” Jesus knew so

well just how few there would be in his own ministry who would find the narrow gate and stay on the narrow way. In our day and time narrowness has become a *bad* word. But only in relationship to God and his word is this true. Narrowness in other fields is called *specialization*. If there are no banks to the river there is no force to the water's flow. If there are no limitations on a work project, no work is done. Considering the ultimate end of *life* or *destruction* a search for the narrow gate and the narrow way seems altogether reasonable. A careful consideration of the lives of those who have found the gate and way is a good recommendation for the continued search.

Pause — wait — think — then express yourself in thoughtful praise or thanks.

READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

I do want to pray about my entrance into the narrow gate: (1) How often shall I enter? Shall it not be every day? (2) Teach me just how narrow is narrow? (3) If I follow your Son as I read his biographers I know I shall be on the narrow way — give me wisdom. (4) How shall I identify the broad way? (5) Is the “Broadway” of today the broad way of which my Lord spoke? (6) Is Jesus describing the outcome of evangelization? (7) To the above questions I know you have answers — I do expect to receive them.

Please, please remember these are prayers — speak them — reword them!

READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

Speak to me. (1) “You must be prepared to go against custom and the crowd if you follow me.” (2) “You cannot learn my way from others — it *must* come from me.” (3) “Fear of destruction is no enemy to love but its true guardian.”

INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

Taiwan — Points for prayer: (1) *Needy areas and peoples:* There are still about 500 small towns and larger villages without a resident Bible believing witness. (2) *Factory workers* of the lower income group are relatively unreached — most believers coming from a middle class background. Pray for the factory evangelism. (3) *The fishing villages* are poor, and the people work long hours and few have ever witnessed to these needy and superstitious people.

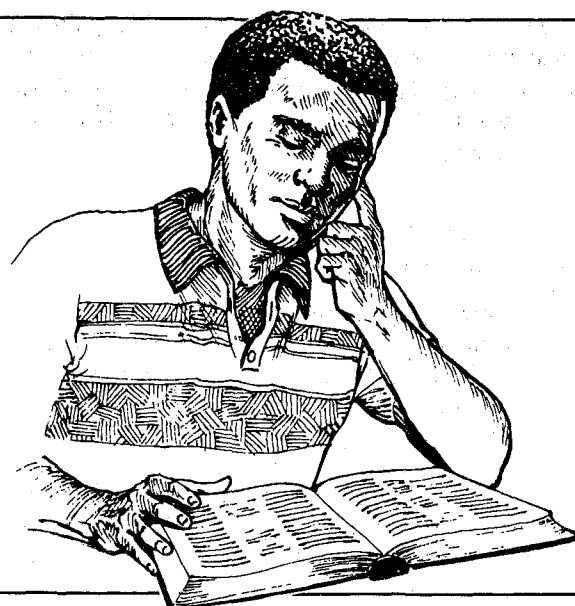
SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

I have a Christ that satisfies,
Since I have been redeemed,
To do His will my highest prize,
Since I have been redeemed,
Since I have been redeemed,
Since I have been redeemed,
I will glory in His name;
Since I have been redeemed,
I will glory in my Savior's name.

WEEK THREE

—Monday—

If your law (as seen in your Son) had not been my delight I indeed would have perished in my affliction. By your fruits I know you!



PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

“If thy law had not been my delight, I should have perished in my affliction. I shall never forget thy precepts; for by them thou hast given me life” (Psa. 119:92,93). What poignant attributes of yourself are in these words: (1) You speak to man in precept and promise he can understand. (2) The content of your word (law) is such as to prompt delight in the heart of the hearer or reader. Praise you for these qualities — there are others — but I want to pause in the joy of praise. (3) Your law is of such a nature as to overcome and explain affliction. Some of your answers amount to a simple confidence in your essential character, but it *is* an answer! (4) Your precepts are so beautiful and valuable that we want never to forget them. (5) In your word, and from your word, we have life.

Express yourself in adoration for this quality of God. Speak it audibly or write out your praise in your own devotional journal.

PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT HE MEANS TO ME

In praise I read this word for myself. This is a privilege. (1) I do believe you have communicated to man in words that can be understood. Indeed to believe less would be to attribute less ability to yourself than to a newspaper editor. (2) Your word’s primary message to me is one of delight. Indeed, I have found it so! From Genesis to Revelation I come away with the total impression that you have such a deep interest in man’s happiness that you would die to give it. The “joy that was set before him” as he endured the cross was also for us! (3) There are times of depression for all of us, but it is not a continuing attitude. Your word, through your Son lifts us out. Our memory turns back to the blessed beautiful promises and depression disappears. (4) I really lose interest in other things when I compare them with the everlasting quality of your word.

How do you personally relate to the delight from God, and God who is Delight? Speak it out or

write it out. It is so important that you establish your own devotional journal.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The predictable nature of your laws is both encouraging and discouraging. The law of forgiveness presupposes sin and repentance. The law of light presupposes darkness. The law of life anticipates or at least includes death. We need not continue in disobedience but we will continue to need forgiveness. Such as: (1) I understand your law, but I do not obey it, i.e., perfectly — or even in a way that pleases me. (2) I do delight in your law, but I am sometimes carried away by pleasure instead of joy. (3) I *know* all things are working together under your direction for my good, but I gripe about it. (4) Of all things I want to remember, it is your law that I do forget! (5) When I have life from your word I sometimes choose death by ignoring your will. I need and claim forgiveness. I want these ideals to become my life-style. I gladly accept your cleansing.

What personal sins do you want to confess? We must speak them to remove them. Do it! Now. There is no one else you have sinned against more than God. Tell him so!

SING A PRAYER TO GOD

Nearer, still nearer, close to Thy heart,
Draw me, my Savior, so precious Thou art;
Fold me, O fold me close to Thy breast,
Shelter me safe in that “Haven of Rest,”
Shelter me safe in that “Haven of Rest.”

Open your hymn book and sing the rest of the verses — or even sing another prayer song.

HIS WORD

¹⁵“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. ¹⁶By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷Likewise every good tree bears good fruit,

but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them. —*Matthew 7:15-20, NIV*
 Read also *Luke 6:43-45*.

READ HIS WORD TO HIM

My dear Father, I will attempt to paraphrase the words of your Son as an expression of my relationship to you. You are saying to me through these words from your Son: Look out for phony teachers and preachers. They say all the right things and present credentials that recommend them. At one time perhaps they were all they seem to be now. But today they are hungry with money madness. These very innocent looking men are promoters of a variety of evil. You can only tell this if you observe them long enough and close enough, but observe it you will! It is as easy to expect a life of purity and sincerity from these men as it would be to get grapes from thorn bushes or figs from a thistle bush.

Please express your response to this beautiful text. Put your expression in your own prayer diary.

READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

Just for me. How pungently does the above relate to me! How deceptively easy it is to be a phony preacher! Dear Lord, I do not in any way want to be that kind of a man! By following Paul's manner of life Timothy became acquainted with the fruit of his whole being. Dear Lord, I want anyone to be able to follow my habits, conversations and attitudes and say your fruit has been growing from this tree! How well do I know that orthodoxy is no criteria for inward evaluation! Respectability might be the covey for a rotten heart. Dear Lord, I am also glad to read these blessed words: "A good tree *cannot* bring forth evil fruit." I could be frightened out of all trying by this terribly severe condemnation of the false. At long last the fruit of the whole life will identify the real and separate it from the false.

Pause in his presence and either audibly or in written form tell him all his word means to you.

READ HIS WORD IN THANKSGIVING

(1) Thank you for this shocking warning. (2) Thank you that your Son can look beneath all covering and see the real person. (3) Thank you that this is said in such a manner that each of us asks "Lord, is it I?" (4) Thank you that each of us knows what kind of fruit our life has produced in the last 20 years. (5) Thank you that we are not called upon to do *anything* with the tree, just examine the fruit. (6) Thank you that the running sands of time leave a clear picture of what they have uncovered. (7) Thank you that you do the cutting and burning.

Give yourself to your own expression of gratitude — write it or speak it!

READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

"Therefore by their fruits you shall know them." By the mature development of their whole lives we shall know them. Not by some individual act that we would consider "out of character." "Two trees of the same species may be identical in every respect but the maturing of the fruit reveals their true nature." It is more than unfortunate to judge a man or a woman on the basis of a single incident. This is done all the time, but it is totally contrary to the principle our Lord here gives to us.

Pause — wait — think — then express yourself in thoughtful praise or thanks.

READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

Here is a text to move us to your throne of grace to ask for help: (1) Keep my convictions strong in the objective nature of truth. (2) Teach me real fear in regard to false teachers. (3) Keep my eyes open for those who look like sheep, but are really wolves. (4) May my evaluations be on the outcome of a life not on appearances. (5) A man may be morally sound but doctrinally wrong — give me wisdom to help such a one. (6) Keep me in a good humor or no one will be helped.

Right here add your personal requests — and his answers.

READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

Speak to me. (1) "A man's words, especially when he is unconscious of them, are a fairly good indication of his heart," (2) "Every tree — i.e. all trees that do not bring forth good fruit will be hewn down." (3) "Rejoice that I alone will judge the fruit of the lives of men."

INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

Taiwan — Point for prayer: *The missionary vision* of the national Church is only seen in a few groups and congregations. There are stirrings of greater things — such as through recent conferences on evangelism, but this burden is not seen to be part of the life of the Church. Some tribal preachers have gone as missionaries to Sarawak, Malaysia, other denominational workers have gone to minister to Chinese congregations in other lands (but this is hardly mission work!).

SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
 That saved a wretch like me!
 I once was lost, but now am found,
 Was blind but now I see.

WEEK THREE

—Tuesday—

There are no imperfections — no mistakes in your creation — all you create is eternal — it fits every need! I lift up my heart in praise.



PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

“I have seen a limit to all perfection, but thy commandment is exceedingly broad. Oh, how I love thy law! It is my meditation all the day.” (Psa. 119:96,97). What a rare opportunity is mine that I can pause every day and hold up another facet of your character and praise you for it! In these two verses there is one quality that speaks very personally to me. (I try to think of myself as rather a poor representation of all men. There are no mistakes in your work — or yourself. I do admire quality work in any field. I have found out that there is always someone around who can and will point out its limitations. But when you have commissioned a task your efforts include *all* contingencies — there are no areas where someone can point out a mistake. Thank you! I can say with no hesitancy “Oh how I love thy law,” but I have yet to find a way to meditate upon it all the day.

Express yourself in adoration for this quality of God. Speak it audibly or write out your praise in your own devotional journal.

PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT HE MEANS TO ME

Just for me. I do advance the above as an example for all or as representative of what I consider for all men. Just here I do want to be as personal as possible. The limitations of human efforts at perfection are many: (1) Nothing is static, i.e., there is always a better way to do it. (2) It does not fit every circumstance; so much of our work is provincial. (3) Some men cannot understand it. (4) Some of our efforts are not practical. (5) Not everyone has even heard of it. In stark contrast your work is: Eternal — never needs an improvement. Such as the smallest flower, or the largest tree. Or we could consider any part of the human body. Has man improved on the human eye. Any photographer will tell you his best camera is a clumsy copy.

How do you personally relate to the perfection of God, and God who is Perfect? Speak it out or write it out.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Sorrow — real genuine God-prompted sorrow must precede repentance. Repentance must be totally open and honest, a full admission of my sin. The one sin that includes many others is the sin of failure to meditate upon your word “all the day.” I am guilty, I am wrong, I feel guilty about this. You have ways of changing this. If I am going to meditate upon your word every day throughout the day your word in some form must be with me. I have memorized some of your word, but it does me little good unless I call it from my subconsciousness to my consciousness and slowly turn over the phrases of what you have said.

What personal sins do you want to confess? We must speak them to remove them. Do it! Now. There is no one else you have sinned against more than God. Tell him so!

SING A PRAYER TO GOD

Must Jesus bear the cross alone,
And all the world go free?
No; ther’s a cross for ev’ry one,
And there’s a cross for me.

Open your hymn book and sing the rest of the verses — or even sing another prayer song.

HIS WORD

²¹“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²²Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles? ²³Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’

²⁴“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶But everyone who hears these

words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash." —*Matthew 7:21-27, NIV*

READ HIS WORD TO HIM

Of all the texts we have considered this is one of the few with such conclusive words as to stand by itself. Here is the great eternal moral principle upon which all my life, or the lives of all men are built.

"Everyone who opens his heart to receive with meekness what you say and does not hesitate or procrastinate but obeys your word shall be like a man building a house upon a solid foundation of bedrock. There are many floods or crises in life. When such a rain, flood and wind hit our lives *then* we shall discover upon what we have built our lives."

Please express your response to this beautiful text. Put your expression in your own prayer diary.

READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

Just for me. Dear Lord, to some extent I am always failing to obey your word as I would want to — let alone fulfill it as you would want it. At the same time, I recognize my Lord — and even yourself — is asking "What will you do in a crisis?" Let me ask myself what I would do in the following floods of life? (1) If I were suddenly struck blind? (2) If our house burned down and all that is in it were turned to ashes? (3) If all three of our children were taken in death — or with an incurable disease? (4) If my wife were taken in death or with a long lingering illness? (5) If I was involved in a conspiracy of lies and lost my job? Is my dwelling place in you? Is my security in you? Is my whole being lost in your Son and his word?

It is so important that you pause in his presence and either audibly or in written form tell him all his word means to you.

READ HIS WORD IN THANKSGIVING

(1) Thank you that I still have ears to hear your word. (2) I thank you that I still have your word to hear. (3) Thank you I can obey you. (4) Thank you that I *want* to obey you. (5) Thank you for the invariable promises or consequences of obedience or lack of it. (6) Thank you for your definition of who is wise and foolish. (7) Thank you for your eternal security.

Give yourself to your own expression of gratitude — write it or speak it!

READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

"... and great was the fall thereof." Indeed, indeed! In so many ways the collapse of a life is a tragedy. A great deal of effort has come to naught. Think of how much work, time, energy and money have all been lost as a result of a faulty foundation! How many wonderful friends and loved ones have been estranged and lost because they could not trust the person whom they knew. When our life is built on the

pursuit of money we at the best can only get what money can give — and it has a way of slipping through your fingers like sand. The same result comes in the pursuit of pleasure. Our Lord is speaking of the lasting value of what he taught. The above thoughts read like cliches, Dear Lord, they are not! They are the eternal sober facts of sand or rock!

Pause — wait — think — then express yourself in thoughtful praise or thanks.

READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

This is much more than a sermon — these powerful words lead me to prayer: (1) In so many relationships I want to know your will so I can do it — open my heart as I read your word. (2) I do want an intimacy with you that gives meaning to my service. (3) Day by day I want to build upon yourself in the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart. (4) I want to remember Judas Iscariot — he called you Lord, and did many mighty works — holy company does not make us holy. Probe my conscience! (5) Open my eyes and ears to hear and see the meanings you have given to us in your own life-style.

Please, please remember these are prayers — speak them — reword them!

READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

Speak to me. (1) "Remember: the principle of 'faith that works' is the only faith I accept." (2) "Rains will come, floods are on their way — check your foundation." (3) "It is possible to be the wise man — now is the time to start."

INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

Thailand — Population: 52,700,000. Growth rate — 1.9%. People per sq. km. — 103.

Points for prayer: (1) *A very marked increase in interest in the Gospel since 1968 after 150 years of very discouraging and hard mission work. This interest has been caused by a number of factors working together — the grave Communist threat, the excellent witness of Christian medical mission work, and also a breath of revival and spiritual deepening among the few Rhai believers.* (2) *Pray for the breaking of the demonic powers behind the entrenched Buddhism and widespread fear of the spirits among both Thai and tribal peoples.* (3) *Needy areas* — the whole of the country is still a pioneer mission field, but more needy is rural central Thailand and also the poor northeast where the density of Christians is one tenth of the low national average.

SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the word:
From heav'n He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.

WEEK THREE

—Wednesday—

Unless I relate what you have said to the way I live there is little meaning in what you have said. Ah, but there is understanding in you and your word!



PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

“I have more understanding than all my teachers, for thy testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the aged, for I keep thy precepts. I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep thy word.”

(Psa. 119:99-101). The purpose of recording these verses is to hold up before our hearts an attribute of yourself for all men’s admiration and praise. Not all men praise you, but they should. Here is reason for praise. (1) You recognize the need of man for a rational explanation of the world in which we live. The explanation you offer in your word gives a depth of understanding that cannot be found from anyone else. At the same time it honors you as the Source. (2) You understand how terribly futile even a long life can be without an explanation from heaven. (3) Evil is overcome by admiration of good and you are Good!

Express yourself in adoration for this quality of God. Speak it audibly or write out your praise in your own devotional journal.

PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT HE MEANS TO ME

I cannot think of anything I need more than these precious words. If I am unwilling to meditate upon your word all such promises fall to the ground. Meditation is a rethinking — a reevaluation — a checking and double checking — and then checking again. Such a practice is carried out today in a thousand jobs. There are three obvious practical applications of this principle: (1) Carry your word in printed form of a testament or even the whole Bible — open it and meditate upon it. If someone offered me an opportunity to obtain \$100,000, i.e., if I understood what he said, I would turn over his words in my mind regardless of what else I did. (2) Listen to an audio cassette and meditate. Play and replay — listen and listen again. (3) Memorize his word — this is what I want to do. Thank you for helping me in the practical application of these verses to my life.

How do you personally relate to the understanding of God, and God who understands? Speak it

out or write it out. It is so important that you establish your own devotional journal.

CONFESSION OF SIN

It would seem the sins here are sins against the light. (1) Why am I so ignorant and stupid when I could be full of your understanding? It is easy to answer and in doing so confess my sin. “The desire for other things choked out the word.” Forgive me! I am glad I can every day renew my mind and be transformed. (2) How is it that instead of growing older and wiser, I only grow older? There is a teacher teaching — Satan has teachers. He has translated his lies into printed form — into audio and video form. We are being taught. The older we get under such instructions, the sadder we become. Stop! Stop! Turn it off! I flee to your word for shelter and protection — to say nothing of light and warmth. (3) I love verse 101 in this psalm: “I hold back my feet from every evil way in order to keep thy word.” My respect and love for you is what keeps me in your way.

What personal sins do you want to confess? We must speak them to remove them. Do it! Now. There is no one else you have sinned against more than God. Tell him so!

SING A PRAYER TO GOD

I must tell Jesus all of my troubles;
He is a kind, compassionate Friend;
If I but ask Him, He will deliver,
Make of my troubles quickly an end,
I must tell Jesus! I must tell Jesus!
I cannot bear my burdens alone;
I must tell Jesus! I must tell Jesus!
Jesus can help me, Jesus alone.

Open your hymn book and sing the rest of the verses — or even sing another prayer song.

HIS WORD

²⁸When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, ²⁹because he

taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

8 When he came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him. —*Matthew 7:28-8:1, NIV*
Read also *Luke 6:43-49*.

READ HIS WORD TO HIM

How wonderful it would have been to be seated in that crowd long ago and hear your Son! I am astonished now — what would have been my reaction then? I do not know that my astonishment is for the same reason. I am more amazed at the meaning of what he has said than his authority. I have accepted your Son's supreme position — it is the impact of what his words could mean for all mankind that astonishes me!

Please express your response to this beautiful text. Put your expression in your own prayer diary.

READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

My Father, I do not want to be a fool. The scribes are yet with us! Could I be considered as one of them? Dear Lord, strike from my hand the pen with which I write if any one of these words is to be considered as having any authority whatsoever. I respect the scribes — many are as sincere as yours truly. But I do not at all respect any scribe who suggests that just because he said it or wrote it that it has any authority. All of us are on an equal level. We sit at Jesus' feet and learn from him. If we gain something to share, its value is in what he said and we communicate. May we move from place to place as we follow him and listen with all our hearts to *what he says!*

Pause in his presence and either audibly or in written form tell him all his word means to you.

READ HIS WORD IN THANKSGIVING

(1) Thank you for the words of his sermon preserved and with us today! (2) Thank you that his word will never lose its power. (3) Thank you that in eternity all scribes will know the answers to questions they cannot now answer. (4) Thank you that the answers are in his knowledge and not ours. (5) Thank you for the ability to be astonished. (6) Thank you that I can identify for myself and others who has the authority. (7) Thank you that today I can follow him!

Give yourself to your own expression of gratitude — write it or speak it!

READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

“... great multitudes followed him.” How I do want to join the crowd and stay with him. To be in the company of God in human flesh. “The wonder of it all” would not describe the reaction. We are sure some who followed him knew who he was, but even the impact of walking in the presence of God was not what we who live 2,000 years later would expect. If he were here today just *why* would I want to follow him? (1) To hear his teaching? How much time do I spend

each day reading what his eyewitnesses wrote? (2) To be amazed again and again at his miracles? Have I spent adequate time meditating over the miracles recorded by those who saw him?

Pause — wait — think — then express yourself in thoughtful praise or thanks.

READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

As I reflect on his whole discourse I want to pause in prayer: (1) May my amazement issue in obedience. (2) Give me a sharp accurate remembrance of what he said. (3) If he has all authority — and he does — why do I spend time with anyone else? (4) How closely have I followed you today? Dear Lord, I ask these questions as petitions — give me *your* answer. (5) How could so many people afford to miss work as they followed my Lord? Probably the answer is in the abject poverty — they didn't have a job — forgive my excuses.

Right here add your personal requests — and his answers.

READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

Speak to me in these three verses: (1) “I can only teach those who want to be taught.” (2) “Amazement doesn't of itself mean anything.” (3) “Acceptance in your heart of my authority is the key.”

INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

Thailand — Points for prayer: (1) *The churches* have not grown as fast as the population for decades, until the last several years. The rather nominal and older congregations were in decline, but there is a new surge of life with some spiritual Bible believing church leaders emerging that have been stimulated by revival in northern Thai congregations. The younger churches (the fruit of the newer Bible believing missions) are showing steady growth — especially among the tribal people. Pray that the believers may become strong and effective witnesses for the Lord. (2) *The problems faced by the churches* — lack of mature preachers, most believers only semi-literate or illiterate and many are converts from among “outcast” leprosy patients at mission hospitals and clinics. Thus many are open to aggressive propaganda by sects and not able to really form an effective evangelistic force.

SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

All praise to Him who reigns above

In majesty supreme,

Who gave His Son for man to die,

That He might man redeem!

Blessed be the name, blessed be the name,

Blessed be the name of the Lord;

Blessed be the name, blessed be the name,

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

WEEK THREE

—Thursday—

“How sweet are your promises to my taste! sweeter than honey to my mouth.” Jesus cared about people — I want to much more than I do!



PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

“I have not departed from your laws, for you yourself have taught me. How sweet are your promises to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth” (Psa. 119:102, 103). Dear Lord, here is real motivation for keeping your word! If you are the teacher I am going to be on the front row with both my ears open. I am going to truly learn if my instruction comes from you! If somehow I can make the transference from the printed page to yourself I will listen and learn. It is easy for me to relate the words in the letters from my dear wife to herself — it is as if she were there talking to me. So it is this morning! I bow before you and listen with my inner ear. I can only testify to the sweetness of your promises as I have claimed them in my experience. But such as I have ingested are even as your word “sweeter than honey.”

Express yourself in adoration for this quality of God. Speak it audibly or write out your praise in your own devotional journal.

PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT HE MEANS TO ME

I feel so strongly about this quality of yourself! You can and do personally instruct me from your word. Perhaps I am so involved in this concept because I know the principle is true: if once I can make the transference from the words on the page to yourself I will not depart from your laws. I praise you that I can even now close my eyes and visualize your reality in the person I read about in the gospels. He was a teacher, indeed, *the* teacher. The Holy Spirit is the author of your word — may he give life to the letter! Praise your name, I even now claim your presence!

How do you personally relate to the teaching of God, and God who is the Teacher? Speak it out or write it out. It is so important that you establish your own devotional journal.

CONFESSION OF SIN

There have been many times when you were separated

from your law and it became a cold, hard set of legal regulations that I hated with a passion. You were not at fault — it was my own stupidity and willfulness. As you know, it took me a long time to hear your voice behind the voice of the preacher. I delight in the experience of opening your word and letting *you* teach me. Forgive me for every time I did not look behind the book and see who was really speaking. Forgive me for every time I listened critically to another brother or sister whom you really wanted to use to tell me something, but I wasn't hearing you. Forgive me.

What personal sins do you want to confess? We must speak them to remove them. Do it! Now. There is no one else you have sinned against more than God. Tell him so!

SING A PRAYER TO GOD

In loving kindness Jesus came
My soul in mercy to reclaim,
And from the depths of sin and shame
Thro' grace He lifted me.
From sinking sand He lifted me,
With tender hand He lifted me,
From shades of night to plains of light,
Oh, praise His name, He lifted me!

Open your hymn book and sing the rest of the verses — or even sing another prayer song.

HIS WORD

7 When Jesus had finished saying all this in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum .
²There a centurion's servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die. ³The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant. ⁴When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him, “This man deserves to have you do this, ⁵because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue.” ⁶So Jesus went with them. —Luke 7:1-6a, NIV
Read Matthew 8:2-13. (We print here the text of Luke but we read the account of Matthew.)

READ HIS WORD TO HIM

I see myself and all men twice over in these accounts. Dear Lord, I am the leper! (1) The disease of sin has infected my being until all hope of being clean is gone. (2) I have heard of your Son and what he can do. I believe he can do all I have heard and more! (3) I feel totally unworthy to be healed. I find nothing in myself to recommend my healing. (4) I must cast myself upon his mercy. (5) My need forces a confession from my lips. (6) A shocking unexpected development! He didn't need to touch me — he could have spoken the word of healing. But he did touch me! (7) In this I am so greatly comforted — and healed. My uncleanness and sickness are gone! I am well!

Please express your response to this beautiful text. Put your expression in your own prayer diary.

READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

Just for me. I can also identify with the centurion. In a very real sense I take his place: (1) I am a Gentile outsider. I have no birthright claims for your favor. (2) I am in the army of the enemy. I wear the obvious uniform of opposition. I cannot hide my sin and the fact that I have sinned. (3) My need is so overpowering that it breaks all conventional barriers down. Dear Lord, I *must* have some help! (4) There are many who are precious to me who lie "paralyzed" in the power of Satan. (5) It is only from the word of my Lord that these dear ones can be made well. (6) My blessed Lord, I want right *now* to trust you for the healing of those so dear to me!

Pause in his presence and either audibly or in written form tell him all his word means to you.

READ HIS WORD IN THANKSGIVING

(1) Thank you Jesus was willing to touch the untouchables. (2) Thank you Jesus was careful about obedience to the law. (3) Thank you Jesus was so approachable — to lepers and soldiers. (4) Thank you for the beautiful word "clean" — it means so much to this leper! (5) Thank you for the centurion's confidence in our Lord's authority. (6) Thank you for the wonderful quality of submission seen here. (7) Thank you for my Lord's rebuke for us religious people. (8) Thank you for the promised feast in heaven.

Give yourself to your own expression of gratitude — write it or speak it!

READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

"Go; be it done for you as you have believed." The wonderful law of faith is here stated and finds fulfillment in the life of the centurion. It is first enunciated at creation when God spoke and it was done. Faith from our point of view always comes by hearing. The centurion believed the words of our Lord and it was done. So many wonderful things could happen in our lives if we would listen to our Lord and believe him. But there must be the wholehearted confidence we see in this soldier. This army captain considered it done

when our Lord spoke. His faith was in the authority of our Lord. Our faith is in the nature of the one speaking. The more we learn of the essential being of our Lord the more confidence we can place in his words.

Pause — wait — think — then express yourself in thoughtful praise or thanks.

READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

In these two incidents there are many points for prayer: (1) Am I as ready to reach out and touch the moral lepers of our day? (2) Lead me to someone in deep need who wants help. (3) Guard me from hasty premature announcements of success. (4) Keep me aware that you have men who will believe in places and jobs to which I do not relate. (5) How I want the humble faith of the centurion. (6) Deepen my understanding of the word "authority." (7) Enlarge my understanding of the expression "kingdom of heaven."

Please, please remember these are prayers — speak them — reword them!

READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

Speak to me through the leper and the centurion: (1) "There is something worse than leprosy — you have been healed and there are no restrictions on telling about it." (2) "If an army captain can care so much about his servant how is it you are so indifferent to greater needs?" (3) "Wake up!"

INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

Thailand — Points for prayer: (1) *Leadership training* — there are a number of good denominational and interdenominational Bible Schools. There are a number of talented young men coming into the Lord's work. Pray for the much used cassette ministry for the training of local leaders. This is vital with the poor communications and widely scattered Christian community. (2) *Missions* — a rapid post-war increase from two groups. There are now approximately 1030 missionary agencies in 70 agencies, mostly with the newer Bible believing groups and the majority in evangelism and church planting ministries among both the Thai and minority groups. There is a pressing need for more to use the present receptivity of the people and build them up into strong churches. Communist and Malay insurgency has limited missionary activity in some areas.

SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

All praise to Him who reigns above
 In majesty supreme,
 Who gave His Son for man to die,
 That He might man redeem!
 Blessed be the name, blessed be the name,
 Blessed be the name of the Lord;
 Blessed be the name, blessed be the name,
 Blessed be the name of the Lord.

WEEK THREE

—Friday—

Give me light for every day — and illumination on the path of the future — I enter the closet to find your answer. Keep me calm in the midst of interruptions.



PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

“Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. I hold my life in my hand continually, but I do not forget thy law” (Psa. 119:105,109). For many years I have loved verse 105 of this blessed psalm. Dear Father, I claim your promise and praise your name. Your word illumines each day, “a lamp to my feet” and lightens the distinct future, “a light to my path.” The attribute of yourself in this verse is your personal interest in today and every tomorrow. I want to praise you that you have such a capacity to exercise in the life experience of every man and woman upon the face of the earth. In contrast to verse 105 is verse 109. My life and the lives of all men are not only in your hand and the concern of your heart but all men hold their own lives in their hands. How equally important it is that we forget not your law.

Express yourself in adoration for this quality of God. Speak it audibly or write out your praise in your own devotional journal.

PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT HE MEANS TO ME

Just for me. Dear Lord, I want more and more of your word for every day. How I want to in a most practical way relate what you say to what I am and what I do. Open my mind so I might find very real ways of making this true. Two or three occur to me now: (1) I could decide to memorize one verse before I eat each meal. And to talk about that verse’s application to my life. (Dear Lord, I am praising you for your word as a lamp and trying to accept it as such.) (2) To print three verses on 3”x5” cards and fasten them in places I would see them several times each day. (3) Make a covenant with some dear friend who would agree to say at least three verses to me and I to him each day.

How do you personally relate to the lamp and light of God, and God who is Light? Speak it out or write it out. It is so important that you establish your own devotional journal.

CONFESSION OF SIN

In all my words you read my heart behind them. You know amid my desire to integrate your word into my life there is an admission of failure to do so. My life is in my hand — my responsibility — how fleeting and elusive is life! How soon forgotten are all the important plans and accomplishments of man. That I should be caught up in the “illusive dream” of sex, food and money is sad, sad! *“But I do not forget thy law.”* How solid and sure is this word! How glad I am to be forgiven and to be able to start all over again each day I live. While my life is in my hand, I do not forget your law! Your law is fulfilled in your Son and your Son made full the law for me! Praise your name!

What personal sins do you want to confess? We must speak them to remove them. Do it! Now. There is no one else you have sinned against more than God. Tell him so!

SING A PRAYER TO GOD

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

Open your hymn book and sing the rest of the verses — or even sing another prayer song.

HIS WORD

He was not far from the house when the centurion sent friends to say to him: “Lord, don’t trouble yourself, for I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. ⁷That is why I did not consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁸For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and that one, ‘Come,’ and he comes. I say to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”

⁹When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, “I tell

you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel. — *Luke 7:6b-9, NIV*

READ HIS WORD TO HIM

What a delight it will be to journey with my Lord to the house of the centurion. We are stopped on the way. The centurion demonstrates the meaning of his words in the persons of his friends. He said to them "Go," and they went with the message for our Lord! We wonder just who these friends were — how many were there? What effect did the words of our Lord have on them? More importantly: What effect do his words have on me? I want to open my heart as I look to my Lord and hear him speak. (1) "Jesus marveled at him." I could think of nothing I would like to do more than to bring the surprise of delight to my Lord.

Please express your response to this beautiful text. Put your expression in your own prayer diary.

READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

(2) My Lord now addresses the multitude: "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." I want to take a very careful look at this faith: (1) Jesus is addressed as "Lord" — as a man under authority he acknowledges my Lord's position. (2) He recognizes our Lord has more important things to do than to answer his request, but he does want an answer. (3) He honestly feels he is unworthy to be in the same room with our Lord — or he feels his house is such an unworthy place for the presence of God in human form. (4) He could not bear the thought of looking at Jesus face to face. (5) "Say the word, and let my servant be healed." For this man all that was necessary was for my Lord to say it and it would be done!

Pause in his presence and either audibly or in written form tell him all his word means to you.

READ HIS WORD IN THANKSGIVING

(1) Thank you that there were no interruptions in my Lord's life — the needs of people were always on his schedule. (2) Thank you for the obedience of the servants. (3) Thank you for the encouragement that culture barriers can be overcome. (4) Thank you for the outstanding example of humility seen in the centurion. (5) Thank you that my Lord defined faith in the action of this man. (6) Thank you that I can expectantly listen for the "go" or "come" of my Lord. (7) Thank you that my Lord separates religion, "Israel" from real "faith" — the centurion.

Give yourself to your own expression of gratitude — write it or speak it!

READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

"When Jesus heard this he marveled at him, . . ." Men marveled at Jesus, but here our Lord marveled at a man. An unlikely man he was! There had no doubt been other army captains who had servants who had become sick. A servant would be a real loss to one who needed his service. But this man *loved* his servant. It wasn't his service but the servant that was

the concern of the centurion. This unusual man had no doubt heard of Jesus earlier. Had he stood in a crowd and watched Jesus heal someone? Had he listened to our Lord as he taught? By whatever means this good man had acquired a total trust in the power or authority of our Lord over sickness. No doubt he believed Jesus could do anything else he chose. At this quality of faith our Lord marveled.

Pause — wait — think — then express yourself in thoughtful praise or thanks.

READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

In Luke's account of the centurion I can learn much: (1) If this good man did not deserve your presence in his house how much less myself — may I never forget the privilege it is to have you living in me. (2) Over so many of my friends I want you to "say the word" and make them well — dear Lord, say it through me. (3) Send your ministering angels to help me in needs you alone can see. (4) Teach me from this text the real meaning of faith. (5) Deepen my meditation on the power in the words of your Son.

Right here add your personal requests — and his answers.

READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

Speak to me again: (1) "It is still true today that my real servants respond to my call to 'go' and 'come.'" (2) "The example of faith presupposes my authority." (3) "Is this text so many words or do you really believe it?"

INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

Thailand — Points for prayer: (1) *Medical work* has proved a valuable key and many owe their conversion to the loving witness of these institutions. There are about 30 Protestant hospitals. Pray for the witness to the many non-Christian nurses (some are seeking the Lord), and for the raising up of Christian Thai medical workers. Leprosy control and treatment among the 400,000 sufferers of this disease has resulted in the planting of many small churches among the Thai, and one even among the Malays. (2) *Student witness* is yet small, but growing. (3) *Literature* — a number of publishers are producing more and more Thai books and much is distributed through the ten Christian bookstores. Several groups plan massive Bible and literature distribution programs in the light of Thailand's exposure to Communist aggression.

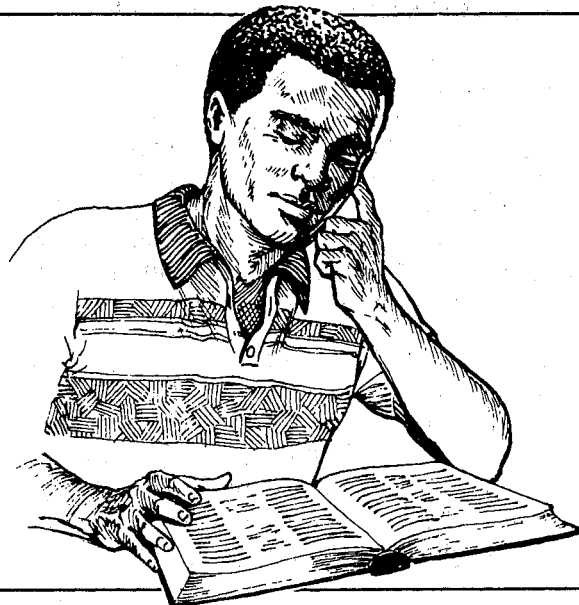
SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

Guilty, vile and helpless, we;
Spotless Lamb of God was He;
"Full atonement!" can it be?
Hallelujah! what a Savior!

WEEK THREE

—Saturday—

You are my protection — my hope! — my heritage. You are the resurrection and the life — you speak to every person behind a tear-stained face: “Weep not!”



PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

“Thy testimonies are my heritage for ever; yea, they are the joy of my heart. Thou art my hiding place and my shield; I hope in thy word” (Psa. 119:111,114). I do want my opening praise to be generic, i.e., I want everyone to be able to relate to what I say about you. If any man anywhere has any heritage — we call it “roots” — it is your word. If any of us wanted to be remembered beyond our own generation we need to relate our life to your testimonies. It would be interesting to list the one hundred men who are most remembered in America and see how many related to your word. At the same time if no public remembrance is involved yet throughout an endless eternity it will be true: *“Thy testimonies are my heritage,”* All men need a “hiding place.” The song writer spoke for all of us: *“There is a place of quiet rest near to the heart of God.”* Bless your name! Our hope is in you and your word.

Express yourself in adoration for this quality of God. Speak it audibly or write out your praise in your own devotional journal.

PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT HE MEANS TO ME

There is no other verse to which I can relate quite like this one. If I am going to leave anything at all to my children and grandchildren — and their children, it will be my attempts to teach your word. My importance is in you — not at all in myself. I know how limited I am in expression and thought. The closer I relate to what you say in your word the more meaning and value there is in my stumbling attempts at teaching. I can say with increasing fervor “they (your words) are the joy of my heart.” The more I meditate and pray the happier I am in the study of your book. Having said the above I want to agree with the psalmist that my “hiding place” — my “shield” is not a book but a person — even yourself! In times of stress and strain and misunderstanding I go to the One behind the words on the page even your own precious self!

How do you personally relate to the heritage from God, and God who gives us roots? Speak it out or write it out. It is so important that you establish your own devotional journal.

CONFESSION OF SIN

It is no problem to admit I have been lured away from your word and yourself by Satan. Dear Lord, forgive me for trying to find identity and importance in what I know is plastic. I need to go far more often into my “hiding place” and be quiet. I want to wait before you until I can get life into focus. Forgive me for facing life without a shield. It has hurt me — and you. I list here my personal sins against you and myself — forgive me. I claim your beautiful promise of cleanness. Dear Lord, I want to resist all effort to fake any expression of joy — if I do not mean it, i.e., with a clear conscience, I will not say it! Praise you for helping me! You have 10,000 reasons for joy.

What personal sins do you want to confess? We must speak them to remove them. Do it! Now.

SING A PRAYER TO GOD

Anywhere with Jesus I can safely go;
Anywhere He leads me in this world below;
Anywhere without Him dearest joys would fade;
Anywhere with Jesus I am not afraid.
Anywhere! anywhere! Fear I cannot know;
Anywhere with Jesus I can safely go.

Open your hymn book and sing the rest of the verses — or even sing another prayer song.

HIS WORD

¹¹Soon afterward, Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went along with him. ¹²As he approached the town gate, a dead person was being carried out — the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the town was with her. ¹³When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, “Don’t cry.”

—Luke 7:11-13, NIV

READ HIS WORD TO HIM

I am just one more person in that "great crowd" who went with your Son as he approached the city of Nain. He is talking with his disciples. Or is he quiet and thoughtful as he draws near to the gate of the city? Out of the city gate four men walk carrying a coffin. In it is the dead body of "the only son" of the weeping mother who follows as close to the pallbearers as she can. This woman is a widow and all her hopes are in that casket! Dear Lord, I am trying as best I can to identify with this poignant record. Our Lord has eyes only for the widow. He walks directly to her. There is an expression of pathos such as I have never seen on the face of any man!

Please express your response to this beautiful text. Put your expression in your own prayer diary.

READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

I became so involved in the reading of this beautiful record of you that it was read into my own heart. But even here I want to tell you what these precious words mean to me. (1) They are only representative of many incidents the gospel writers could have chosen to tell me of the many wonderful acts of compassion my Lord did. (2) My Lord was looking for a need he might meet and help. He is alive *now* and looks for the same thing in my life. (3) Jesus did his miracles in the presence of many witnesses in the broad daylight with no fanfare. The fanfare followed his miracles — it did not precede them. (4) Jesus considered the need of the widow more important than bringing life back to her son. (5) There was no question at all in the mind of that woman that Jesus loved her and helped her. In all these ways and many more you speak to my heart.

It is so important that you pause in his presence and either audibly or in written form tell him all his word means to you.

READ HIS WORD IN THANKSGIVING

(1) Thank you for the tangible circumstances of this miracle. (2) Thank you that we are still one of the learners in this incident. (3) Thank you that one day we shall meet the son and the mother personally. (4) Thank you for my Lord's compassion that is just as real today as then. (5) Thank you for the precious words my Lord speaks to every tear-stained face: "Weep not." (6) Thank you that Jesus has an answer to every heartbreak. (7) Thank you for those eyewitnesses who told this story to Luke.

Give yourself to your own expression of gratitude — write it or speak it!

READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

"... and said to her, 'Do not weep.'" From the woman's perspective such words could have been almost an insult. She had every reason in human experience to weep. She had just lost the dearest in her life. Her only child had been taken from her. She had no other means of support. Her days ahead looked

bleak indeed. She had just lost her only family identity and companionship.

From our Savior's perspective he had many reasons for saying what he did. He offered her the hope of the worlds and life to come where there would be no death or separation. He was offering to her a trust in a heavenly Father who has a special interest in widows. He is about to restore all she had before this loss along with the hope for the future.

Pause — wait — think — then express yourself in thoughtful praise or thanks.

READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

It is good to relate our requests to these encouraging words: (1) What a testimony of the deity of Jesus to these servants — how can I communicate this good news to such men today? (2) Dr. Luke can tell us more about sickness and death than any of the other gospel writers — how I want to relate better to such persons and their loved ones. (3) Jesus did his miracles in the presence of a large crowd in the broad daylight — give me deeper and deeper understanding of the purpose and power of his mighty acts. (4) Break my heart with those whose hearts are breaking.

Please, please remember these are prayers — speak them — reword them!

READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

Speak to me in this poignant story' (1) "My heart yet goes out to every grieving mother." (2) "No word of mine shall ever be void of power." (3) "My word has been preserved so it can live again and again in the hearts of those who need hope."

INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

Thailand — Points for prayer: (1) *Minority groups:* *The Chinese* number around 3 million, but fewer have put their trust in the Lord than in other overseas communities of Chinese such as Singapore, etc. There are about 70 Chinese Protestant congregations with 6,000 members. Only 2% of the Chinese are Christian — mostly Catholic. (2) *The Malays* (1,600,000) live in the 5 provinces adjoining Malaysia. There is much political tension and unrest. This is the only Malay community open to evangelism in Asia, thus is strategic — especially for the Malays in Malaysia who are legally not allowed to be evangelized. After years of work by missionaries a little Malay Church of about 100 has been born. Many others have heard the Gospel and believe, but hold back because of fear.

SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee;
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Thro' all eternity.