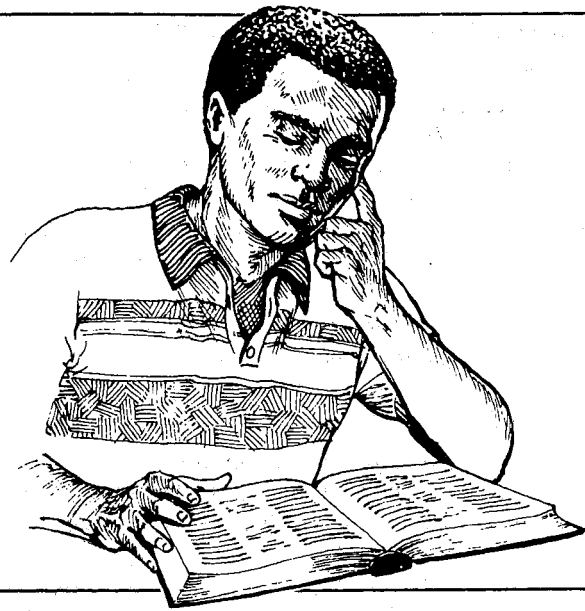


# WEEK ELEVEN

## —Sunday—

*It is one thing to be eternal — and you are — but unchangeably eternal is solid comfort! When I know who you are I can hardly wait to bow before you!*



### PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

*Unchangeable:* It is a comfort to know someone, SOMEONE who will never, never deviate in any way relating to character. How impressive to leave a record of yesterday — how complete is the history of your character and what a strength to me — to all men. Your love, kindness and interest are always the same.

*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

Unchangeable for me! I can expect you to be forever what you have ever been. Praise your holy (pure) name — or person. How satisfied I am in you — how full and fulfilled. It is all because I know you love me without change. The cosmos will dissolve but thou abidest the same!

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

### CONFESSION OF SIN

I have a strong tendency to rationalize my sins — to justify my disobedience. In this hour I drop such pretense! Dear God, help me to leave it dropped. I freely admit my wrong, my sin. I name it before thee. I at the same time claim your cleansing. I gladly, eagerly leap into the fountain for sin and uncleanness. Bless your dear person — how good to be clean.

*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 have a Father; to me He has given  
A hope for eternity, blessed and true;

And soon He will call me to meet Him in heaven,  
But oh, that He'd let me bring you with me, too!  
For you I am praying,  
For you I am praying,  
For you I am praying,  
I'm praying for you.

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

### HIS WORD

<sup>6</sup>When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. <sup>7</sup>Utterly amazed, they asked, "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans?"

<sup>8</sup>Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome <sup>11</sup>(both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs — we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" <sup>12</sup>Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

<sup>13</sup>Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

<sup>14</sup>Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who are in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. <sup>15</sup>These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! —Acts 2:6-15, NIV

### READ HIS WORD TO HIM

How amazing are your actions! Past tracing out are your purposes. You told your apostles to go into all the world and preach, then you brought men from every nation so they would hear what you wanted preached. I now consider the incredible fact that all present heard in their own languages the mighty works of your own self.

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

## READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

I want to read these words — dear Lord, just as if I had never read them before. I have a difficult time assimilating all that is happening here: (1) Twelve Galileans speaking in more than a dozen languages they have never heard before or surely they had never spoken. (2) Some (seemingly) intentionally misunderstand. But then I know many do this today — even myself. Peter is so patient with them — help me to be the same way.

*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

This is the area where I most keenly enjoy the expression of worship. To thank you for: (1) God-fearing men of all nations of all time that made it possible for me — or anyone else to fear and love you. (2) Jerusalem and all of its tremendous associations — over so long, with so many people and incidents. (3) The tremendous supernatural ability to speak in a language never learned for the purpose of communicating. This is the very antithesis of the tower of Babel. (4) Again and again you do choose the humble to accomplish your work.

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

## READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

Oh, dear God, holy and present Spirit, beautiful Savior. Peter said to listen carefully, and I want to do just that! (1) Can I hear the sound? i.e., of the the mighty, rushing wind? of the blowing of a violent wind from heaven? The *lost* heard the *wind*. It wasn't for the saved that the wind sound came. (2) They were all called together — in Jerusalem and in the Temple in Jerusalem. Is there a pattern here for evangelism? (3) The religious folk were the first to hear and become Christians — they were bewildered — utterly amazed — perplexed. So it is today: we must seek a work in our day to do the same thing — call attention to yourself, not ourselves! (4) We will need someone like Peter to explain, but he needs to be *like Peter*.

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

## READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

What inquiries shall I make from these precious verses? (1) Are there God-fearing people (even one) for every nation in the world? How sad to say “no.” (2) What can I do, what can you do through me — to call a crowd to hear? (3) Has anyone heard his own language spoken by one who did not know it? i.e., since Pentecost? (4) I am asking questions for which I expect an answer. Help me. (5) I want to identify the languages spoken today in the provinces mentioned. (6) I want to know the full meaning of this experience. (7) How does drunkenness and nine in the

morning relate?

*Right here add your personal requests — and his answers.*

## READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

Communication is the point of this text — communicate with me! (1) “I want every man to hear my word in his own language.” (2) “Humble station is no reason for not speaking my word.” (3) “There will always be those who do not understand and will mock.”

## INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

*Mauritania* — Points for prayer: (1) *There is not one indigenous Mauritanian believer or church in the country.* Everything seems against a change: Islam entrenched for 1,000 years, low literacy level, no Scriptures, no radio broadcasts in Hassaniya Arabic, and laws that forbid any Mauritanian to renounce Islam. The “strong man” must be bound. There will be a redeemed people from this land. (2) *Expatriate Christians* have opportunities for technical and professional employment, but economic, climatic and spiritual conditions are harsh. Pray for all seeking to live for Christ. May they see the planting of a Mauritanian Church. Fellowship opportunities are limited.

## SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,  
In my place condemned He stood;  
Sealed my pardon with His blood;  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

# WEEK ELEVEN

## —Monday—

*Do we really know the meaning of this blessed word? I.e. SOVEREIGN? I want to enter into his presence to find an answer.*



### PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

*Sovereign:* How wonderful to know someone is in control! Praise your eternal, unchangeable, nature!

*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

It is sobering to realize I have turned the management over to this ONE who is at work directing all things under his sovereign will. To me it is a great source of encouragement. He is *at work* in my life, and I want to open my heart (all of it) to him! I want to cooperate in all ways with him. He *knows all about everything*.

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

### CONFESSION OF SIN

Dear Lord, dear Lord, forgive my sins that I here now confess to you. Each one hurts you and myself. Cleanse me! forgive me! Remove from your record, clear my record. How eternally good it is to be able to pray this prayer. Oh, to claim, to *know* the removal of guilt! Wonder and joy and standing in grace!

*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

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
Ye soldiers of the cross;  
Lift high His royal banner,  
It must not suffer loss:  
From vict'ry unto vict'ry  
His army shall He lead,  
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished,  
And Christ is Lord indeed.

### HIS WORD

<sup>17</sup>“In the last days, God says,  
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,  
your young men will see visions,  
your old men will dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup>Even on my servants, both men and women,  
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,  
and they will prophesy.

<sup>19</sup>I will show wonders in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood and fire and billows of smoke.

<sup>20</sup>The sun will be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood  
before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’’ —Acts 2:17-21, NIV

### READ HIS WORD TO HIM

You have said, you are saying and you will always say, “In the last days” — which began on Pentecost and end when Jesus comes — you will pour out your “Spirit upon all flesh” — prophecy — visions and dreams will be given — have been given. I am simply affirming what you said — to stand in wonder and amazement at grace extended to such unworthy people!

### READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

Dear God, I'm so glad you have given *me* your Spirit. In days gone by I have had some visions — not for anyone else, but my little area of work — and the people who work with me — now that I am old I have had some dreams. I have spoken your word to some who have received it for what it was; many who didn't. I have seen and beheld the wonder of heaven above — even your dear Son and your precious self!

*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**

Thank you dear, dear Lord for: (1) The last days — we are living in them. Of all the thousands and thousands of years we live in the last days — praise you! (2) That your Spirit, even the Holy Spirit the Other Comforter, has come! Oh, grace upon grace! (3) We have the prophecy of some of those young men like John Mark in his beautiful gospel. (4) There are yet servants and handmaidens with the presence of the Holy Spirit — your teachers all with us today. (5) Maranatha — oh, day of the Lord — even so come *today* Lord Jesus!

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

**READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION**

Gather around these three thoughts and let the Lord speak to you: (1) *The sound of a violent wind* filled the house — what fills my house today? Does the sound of his name and his word fill it? (2) *Tongues of fire* — representative of the supernaturalness of the abilities given. Oh, just to add splendor and attract attention. Dear God, you have my attention. (3) They all spoke in other languages. Until we get the mighty words of God known in the languages of the world, the world will remain lost! As you know dear God, I'm trying to do this.

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

**READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS**

What desires arise from you as I read your word? (1) I want to see my Lord as the most creditable person I know. (2) Let me examine his signs all over again! (3) Let me know your set purpose for me today. (4) Do I appreciate the resurrection as I should? (5) Thank you for every word of King David. (6) Open my mind to understand the prophecies of David. (7) Give me a deep appreciation of my resurrection body.

*Right here add your personal requests — and his answers.*

**READ HIS WORD AND  
WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS**

You want to say something very special to me from this text: (1) "My Son is your Lord — accept him!" (2) "Death has no hold at all on you." (3) "Jesus is alive now!"

**INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD**

*Mauritius* — Points for prayer: (1) *Most older churches are in gradual decline*, and are traditional and nominal. The charismatic movement made a big impact for a while on the Roman Catholic Church and the Anglicans, but most of those converted have now formed their own groups. Few really have a personal faith in Christ. (2) Missionary work is limited. Numbers of workers should be increased, but visa restrictions need to be relaxed. The great need is for church planners, disciplers and Bible teachers to

mobilize Mauritian believers in effective evangelism.

**SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD**

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
My great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King,  
The triumphs of His grace.  
My gracious Master and my God,  
Assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad  
The honors of Thy name,  
Hear Him, ye deaf;  
His praise, ye dumb,  
Your loosened tongues employ;  
Ye blind, behold your Savior come;  
And leap, ye lame, for joy!

# WEEK ELEVEN

## —Tuesday—

*Gladly — willingly do I accept you as judge. I would want no other. I open my heart before you. This time of worship will be a joy!*



### PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

*Justice-Judge:* He will and is judging me! But he is also love and mercy and grace so whereas his judgment will be justice, it will also be kind and patient.

*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

He will indeed judge the whole world and all men who have ever lived or are now alive. Blessed be his name, and yet I know I stand condemned before him! Only by grace will I ever — am I now saved!

*How do you personally relate to the justice-judgement of God, and God who is Justice-Judge? Speak it out or write it out.*

### CONFESSION OF SIN

Confession of my guilt and sin and weakness and selfishness of my misplaced love. How could I so love myself? Dear God, forgive! I accept your forgiveness, but I wonder if you accept my poor repentance? My sin is an embarrassment and a weight and a hindrance and a stake in my flesh — make me whole!

*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 hear Thy welcome voice,  
That calls me, Lord, to Thee  
For cleansing in Thy precious blood  
That flowed on Calvary.  
I am coming, Lord!  
Coming now to Thee!  
Wash me, cleanse me in the blood  
That flowed from Calvary!

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

### HIS WORD

<sup>22</sup>“Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. <sup>23</sup>This man was handed over to you by God’s set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. <sup>24</sup>But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. <sup>25</sup>David said about him:

“ ‘I saw the Lord always before me.  
Because he is at my right hand,  
I will not be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;  
my body also will live in hope,

<sup>27</sup>because you will not abandon me to the grave,  
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

<sup>28</sup>You have made known to me the paths of life;  
you will fill me with joy in your presence.’

<sup>29</sup>“Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. <sup>30</sup>But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup>Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay. <sup>32</sup>God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact.” —Acts 2:22-32, NIV

### READ HIS WORD TO HIM

How concise and complete are the words of Dr. Luke, but at the same time the words of yourself. Jesus your dear Son was accredited — among men — as they well knew. What confidence we have in him and in you! “Handed over to you by God’s set purpose and foreknowledge” — what a mind-staggering thought! What man did was not only foretold but planned by God.

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

**READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF**

You raised him from the dead — praise God — one day you will raise me from the dead. It is just as impossible for death to keep me as to keep him. What David said I do want to say — “I saw the Lord always before me!” — how beautifully did the prophecy find fulfillment in my Lord — each detail complete and in place! Jesus, my king, is on David’s throne and reigning for me and interceding for me.

*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) How glad I am I *can* and do *listen* to what you say. (2) Thank you, thank you for the more than adequate accredited Lord! (3) Thank you that he died for my sins as well as for the sins of the whole world. (4) That my Lord lives today — sees me — reads every one of these words I pray — reads also, every one of the intents and purposes of my heart. (5) For men’s tombs and my Lord’s empty tomb!

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

**READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION**

David as a prophet: (1) Surely a good man, but surely not a perfect man — surely then, God can use you and me. (2) Was glad to be a servant as well as a king — we are all kings and priests unto God (Rev. 1:5,6; 5:10; I Pet. 2:8,9), but our primary purpose is to serve as priests — intercede — and as kings to rule over Satan. (3) David took great courage and comfort in the presence and promises of God — most especially about his Son. How I do want to do the same thing!

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

**READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS**

What shall I ask as I consider this text? (1) I want all the words Joel spoke that relate to me to be fulfilled. (2) Am I living in the “last days”? I believe we have been since Pentecost. (3) How can I best appreciate the gift of your Spirit? (4) How can I best use the Spirit’s gifts? (5) Open my mind as to how to accept fulfilled prophecy. (6) When will the sun turn to darkness and the moon into blood? (7) If in the next twinkling of an eye he should come, would I welcome him?

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

**READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS**

As you spoke through Peter to those on Pentecost, speak to me through the same man: (1) “You have what Joel promised.” (2) “Salvation for all men is available *now!*” (3) “In another sense — every day is a day of the Lord — live it for me!”

**INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD**

*Mauritius* — Points for prayer: (1) *Mauritius has been a forgotten mission field.* The evangelization of the Indian majority has only just begun and is difficult to achieve with limitations on the entry of missionaries. (2) *Strong ethnic and religious loyalties hinder the progress of the gospel.* To the Indians conversion to Christianity is a step loaded with political and ethnic overtones — of “becoming a Creole.” Pray for wise and effective strategies to reach out to the 490,000 Hindus and 160,000 Muslims in both Creole and the Indian languages used by the older people.

**SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD**

I will sing of my Redeemer,  
And His wondrous love to me;  
On the cruel cross He suffered,  
From the curse to set me free.  
Sing, oh, sing of my Redeemer,  
With His blood He purchased me,  
On the cross He sealed my pardon,  
Paid the debt, and made me free.

# WEEK ELEVEN

## —Wednesday—

*I read your trademark all about me!  
Perfection is a description of all you  
have created! In the closet I want to  
deepen my appreciation of yourself.*



### PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

*Creator:* How wonderfully and beautifully you created the world in which we live. To look and consider the smallest of your handiwork is to be full of delight, full of praise for such a one. Blessed be your powerful wise ability! You are yet in the creation business. You have not only created the world, you have created man!

*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

Each day there are a myriad of flowers, plants, chemicals that change and reform and manifest your continuing interest in creation — and man. Oh, the amazing thought. It was all done that I might enjoy it!

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

### CONFESSION OF SIN

I do believe the programming of my subconscious mind has much to do with sin. If I program into it a blunt refusal for a period of three weeks it will be then much easier to obey than to disobey. Dear God, help me to so decide; but just now I accept your cleansing forgiveness. How good to know I have no record of wrong!

*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 trials;  
I cannot bear these burdens alone;  
In my distress He kindly will help me;

He ever loves and cares for His own.  
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

<sup>33</sup>Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. <sup>34</sup>For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

“The Lord said to my Lord:

“Sit at my right hand

<sup>35</sup>until I make your enemies  
a footstool for your feet.”

<sup>36</sup>“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”

<sup>37</sup>When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” <sup>38</sup>Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

—Acts 2:33-38, NIV

### READ HIS WORD TO HIM

How could I ever say what it means to you to have your Son? He who was and is and is to come now back in your presence? These are but poor stammering, ignorant, meaningless words. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit! He is exalted at your right hand. You have made him both Lord and Christ. The Savior is now King, or the Anointed One!

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

### READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

As if I had never read it before — there are words

and thoughts that have escaped my notice — such as “the Father” — only *one* Father — “ascend into heaven” — there is an “up” and a “down” in the expressions of this text. Have I ever been truly “cut to the heart”? The wonder, the enormity of the transactions of Calvary has not yet been fully probed!

*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

Thank you for: (1) My exalted Lord. (2) He is ever active in intercession for me. (3) The promised Holy Spirit — he was seen and heard through men — as he is today! (4) Jesus is indeed “my Lord” — how glad I am to claim him as such. (5) He is my sin bearer — my sin for me — my Lord and King. (6) I am cut to the heart all over again when I see him there dying for me! (7) Dear God, I do repent — I am so glad I was baptized to stop my sin and receive the blessed Holy Spirit.

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

### READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

If I do what they did I will become what they were. Oh, that I might single out one of the multitude and put myself in his place. I want to hear unlearned, ignorant men from the hills of Galilee speak in my own native dialect. This would be by itself an amazement to me. I want to be convinced by evidence that Jesus of Nazareth was indeed my long promised and looked for Messiah. I want to understand not in a small way but in an overwhelming way that he, Jesus, was God’s lamb slain for my sins and all sins of all men for all time. My mind, my whole being is changed! The wonderful Holy Spirit is present to accompany and accomplish this change. My baptism like theirs made me a Christian — together with all others who share with me I became a member of his church — or part of the “called out ones.”

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

### READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

How I want to ask that I might receive: (1) Give me a fresh sense of my Lord’s exalted position. (2) May I believe I now have the Holy Spirit. (3) Make your enemies your footstool in my life today. (4) May your Son be both Lord and Christ to me. (5) Cut me to the heart with your love for the lost world. (6) Help me to change my mind about all sin. (7) May I appreciate more than ever my baptism.

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

### READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

Speak to me deeply, personally through Peter: (1) “You are a member of the same body as those on

Pentecost.” (2) “The Holy Spirit wants you.” (3) “Acknowledge my Son as Lord and King in your whole life!”

### INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

*Mexico* — Points for prayer: (1) *This dynamic, growing nation is searching for an identity* in its Hispanic and Indian roots. This leads to a fierce nationalism and demonstrations of independence from its large northern neighbor, the USA. This is often expressed in anti-Protestant populist propaganda. Pray that Mexicans may find their true identity in a personal faith in Christ. (2) *The deep economic crisis together with the population explosion could precipitate chaos.* Pray for the government as it seeks to grapple with endemic corruption, the debt crisis, unemployment and the unfulfilled expectations of the poor. Pray that these situations may break down prejudices to the message of the gospel.

### SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

There is a name I love to hear,  
I love to sing its worth;  
It sounds like music to mine ear,  
The sweetest name on earth.  
Oh, how I love Jesus,  
Oh, how I love Jesus,  
Oh, how I love Jesus,  
Because He first loved me!



# WEEK ELEVEN

## —Thursday—

*I watch your Son in his ruling men — how did he do it? I know you want me to respond as those who accepted his rule. Speak to me in the quietness of this hour.*



### PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

*Ruler:* I want to be ruled by you! I rejoice in your law. I gladly accept your Lordship. You are ruler over all and are in all. Praise your essential Being. To rule is your nature; this is your normal expression. How complete and fulfilling is this quality of your character.

*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

Oh, how I need and want someone to take over the reins of my heart. Take my mind, my will, my emotions and my conscience. Gladly do I turn them over to you. I know my choice and personal commitment are involved in your rulership. But as to choice, I with delight choose you and your dear Son and the present Holy Spirit.

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

### CONFESSION OF SIN

My inability to rule my own life the way you want me to relates directly to my desire for you to rule! I want to please you. I want you to forgive me. I know, I feel, I accept the fact that you do. It is a beautiful experience to be freely, totally forgiven. I am full of wonder before you. Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord imputes *no* iniquity, and in whose spirit *there is no deceit!* Read verse 5 of Psalm 32. Oh, the joy of forgiveness.

*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 need Thee every hour,  
Most gracious Lord;  
No tender voice like Thine  
Can peace afford.  
I need Thee, O I need Thee;  
Ev'ry hour I need Thee!  
O bless me now, my Savior,  
I come to Thee!

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

### HIS WORD

<sup>39</sup>“The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off — for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

<sup>40</sup>With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup>Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

<sup>42</sup>They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. —Acts 2:39-42, NIV

### READ HIS WORD TO HIM

My wonderful Father, how gladly I read these words of your book back to you to tell you how very much I appreciate them. I do claim the promise of salvation and the Holy Spirit! I include myself in those “afar off.” I am a Gentile but I can and do now “save myself” by accepting your Son and his salvation. I want also to escape the corruption that is in this world (generation) through lust. How gladly I count myself among the baptized. Oh, oh, that I might obtain the motivation of devotion. I want to each day meditate on your word — to help others — to remember your Son's death — and most of all to pray.

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

**READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF**

Dear Lord, I see Peter pointing at me. I hear through his words; it is *your call*. I want to be warned. I give myself in response — I enter into salvation. I accept your message — deepen my willingness to live it out in daily life today. Praise your wonderful grace that there are thousands and thousands of others who share the same salvation with me. Together we can continue our worship as the body of your Son on this earth.

*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**

Yes, yes, thank you: (1) Your promise has been kept — salvation is here. (2) You do call men through the gospel today as on Pentecost. (3) That you plead and warn us — this is out of your mercy — we do not deserve such. (4) The joy of others feeds my happiness. (5) There is a way to sustain our joy. (6) For the teachings of the apostles and prophets in the New Testament. (7) For the blessed supper of my Lord.

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

**READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION**

There *is*, there *is* something I *must* do to be saved. I can and do save myself. I *must* within my own heart respond to him. I am reluctant, I need someone to plead and warn me. I can respond to the good news but I do not want to until someone like Peter pleads with me and warns me of hell and what being lost really means. Can we see today what we see here on Pentecost? Can 3,000 be won today? Indeed they can and are when we have preachers like Peter. God is ready to call to save through his preachers and his Spirit — through the acceptance of those who hear and believe and repent and are baptized.

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

**READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS**

Let me request what I know you will give: (1) Help me to enjoy the promised salvation. (2) Make me a messenger to those who have never heard. (3) Break my heart that I might plead with men. (4) I want to be saved from my lost generation. (5) Are there 3,000 somewhere today who would accept your Son? (6) If I do what they did will I not become what they were? (7) Dear Lord, help me to devote myself to all they did.

*Right here add your personal requests — and his answers.*

**READ HIS WORD AND  
WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS**

In a special way speak to me through these beautiful words: (1) “You need the fellowship I have for you with me and other Christians.” (2) “You have not yet

found the depth of meaning there is in my supper.” (3) “You really do not know the joy you could have in prayer.”

**INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD**

*Mexico* — Points for prayer: (1) *The Roman Catholic Church* lost its political and economic power in the 1910 revolution but retains a visible cultural dominance. Most Mexicans are culturally Catholic but still bound by sin, narrow traditionalism and syncretic religious practices. The power of the ancient gods and spirit world has yet to be broken in the Spanish-speaking majority and, more especially, in the Christo-pagan Indian minority groups. (2) *The growth of Evangelicals* has been dramatic over the last two decades. Most of this growth has been among the lower classes, urban migrants and some Indian tribes in the southeast.

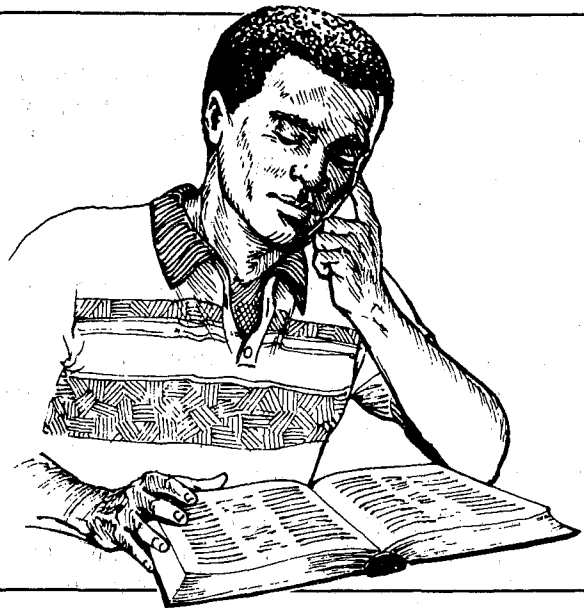
**SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD**

Praise him! praise him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!  
Sing, O Earth, His wonderful love proclaim!  
Hail Him! hail Him! highest archangels in glory:  
Strength and honor give to His holy name!  
Like a shepherd, Jesus will guard His children,  
In His arms He carries them all day long:  
Praise Him! praise Him!  
tell of His excellent greatness;  
Praise Him! praise Him! ever in joyful song!

# WEEK ELEVEN

## —Friday—

*It is so good to worship Someone who finishes everything he starts. I want your Spirit to enable me — to strengthen my inner man. I worship you for this purpose.*



### PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

*Complete.* How could we better describe your self! There is nothing you lack. You are whole in every sense. It would help me to worship you if I listed just two areas where all men can find you *complete*. (1) *Complete in knowledge.* There is no branch of science in which you do not have absolute and total information. It will be a part of the joy of heaven to investigate your resource of information. (2) *Complete in sympathetic understanding love.* My love and the love of all men is so inadequate — alloyed with our own selfishness. How glorious to worship and praise and know you — to commit myself — and for all men to do likewise. It is no effort — it is a privilege!

*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

What all men find generally in you I now find personally and intimately. I want to enter into a secret pact. In you I am whole for you are wholeness itself! I can pause anytime of the day and cast myself upon you. *I know* you care for me. (Peter said so.) You love me — forgive me — chasten me — have specific plans for me — bless your wonderful name! I find *no* help — *no* hope — *no* fulfillment in anyone or anything else! You have made my life so full — so meaningful. I want to reaffirm my wholeness in you. I am real eager to enter into the larger part of my life right on the other side of my last heart beat!

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

### CONFESSION OF SIN

If you are so complete for every area of life, how is it I seek fulfillment outside yourself? It could be easy to say with Paul "It is not I who do it, but sin which lives in me" or "so then it is no longer I that do it,

but sin which dwells within me" (Rom. 7:17, RSV). Jesus *can* and *does* deliver me from this bondage of separation. I live by my response to my environment. My largest need then is to so condition my reflexes that I will always (by habit) respond to your sweet will and not that of Satan who is the deceiver. I have lived so long in Satan's world (with all that is in his (the) world) that I am like the Israelites who didn't recognize the Deliverer. Oh, dear God, dear Savior, I do want out! *Bitterness* is a sin. I have been (am I now?) bitter about some things. Have I ever been bitter against my dear wife? Dear Lord, why? I repent — change my mind — I was wrong, wrong, wrong! forgive me. Bless your name, I'm whole!

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

### SING A PRAYER TO GOD

Jesus, Lover of my soul,  
Let me to Thy bosom fly,  
While the nearer waters roll,  
While the tempest still is high;  
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,  
Till the storm of life is past;  
Safe into the haven guide,  
O receive my soul at last.

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

### HIS WORD

<sup>43</sup>Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup>Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. <sup>46</sup>Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. — *Acts 2:43-47, NIV*

**READ HIS WORD TO HIM**

I want to be constantly filled with awe and wonder! There is more than enough all about me to make such a response very possible. Dear Lord, just to consider the beauty of the variety of birds, the color and delicate form of the flowers, to look down at my own hand. When I consider the millions and millions of stars and planets all held in place by your word. Physical healing is a source of wonder and awe and by the hands of your "sent ones" it was done. You are healing today in answer to prayer and I praise you — most of all for the awesome wonder of Calvary and the open tomb!

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

**READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF**

Dear Lord, I *do*. I want to stand in the Temple court and feel the thrill of the risen Lord! I want to be consumed with the love for those in need. I want to be moved by the example and spirit of my Lord to give what I have to help others. What a possession: *a glad, sincere heart!* The Lord will add to our number today when we have the same total involvement with you. In only thirty years the whole Roman world knew of your dear Son and his salvation (Col. 1:6,23; Rom. 1:8).

*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**

I always approach this time with exuberant expectation: (1) Thank you that I am not blind — that I can see. (2) Thank you that I can see through the eyes of Jesus — through the eyes of yourself — you have given me an inward eye transplant (the eyes of my heart)! (3) Thank you for the capacity of awe and wonder, and for objects and acts that produce such a reaction. (4) Oh, that all believers — *all* believers were together and had *all* things in common. I thank you for those who do — and for their example to show us we could if we would. (5) Thank you that you have given us favor with many, many people over a *long* period of time.

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

**READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION**

Let's meditate over three thoughts: (1) Jesus' miracles were his divine credentials. You placed your approval and acceptance upon him and his life and words by these acts of power. (2) God's set purpose was to take away the sin of the world — he did it — you did it! by your Lamb — even our Lord Jesus. He was "the Lamb slain before the world was created." I do not understand it, but I know it is true. (3) The men of his own generation killed Jesus. His death was a violation of their own law. Men now do the same thing in their rejection of him. Praise your name *we can* change.

**READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS**

What are you saying to me? What shall I ask of you? (1) How can I find a deeper reverence? (2) Lord, I believe, help my unbelief! (3) Am I willing to sell what I have to help others? Open my heart! (4) How can I have the joy and unity with others I see in the Jerusalem church? (5) Help me to make every meal an act of worship. (6) Give me an attitude of love for all. (7) How can people be saved every day in my town?

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

**READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS**

I hear you say to me: (1) "The Apostles are my voice." (2) "It is more blessed to help others than to be helped." (3) "Every Christian is a member of my church."

**INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD**

*Mexico* — Points for prayer: (1) *Persecution, war and economic depression* all hindered evangelism and church growth until the 1940s. There has been rapid growth of indigenous and mission-related churches since then, with the most marked growth among Pentecostals and SDAs. During the '80s the growth has attracted negative attacks in the press. Evangelicals are portrayed as anti-Mexican spies or destroyers of Mexican culture and unity. Doctrinal shallowness, error and also moral and personal relationship breakdowns have impaired the growth of the Church. (2) *Foreign missionaries'* legal position is both ambiguous and restrictive. Visas have been a battle to obtain. Almost all are US citizens, so they need great sensitivity and tact in their cultural adaptation.

**SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD**

We praise Thee, O God! for the Son of Thy love,  
For Jesus who died, and is now gone above.

Hallelujah! Thine the glory;

Hallelujah! Amen!

Hallelujah! Thine the glory;

Revive us again.

# WEEK ELEVEN

## —Saturday—

*We are all essentially spirit beings. We are created in your likeness and you are Spirit. We have direct access to you. Enlighten my mind as I worship you.*



### PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

*Spirit:* Indeed you are! Not mysterious but at the same time, who can trace out your ways? You are an all pervading intelligent Person. Invisible but clearly seen in the face of our Savior. Praise his holy, wonderful 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

You are present in me in the person of the Holy Spirit. But it is also your capability to dwell everywhere at the same time. You are presently aware of all that I say and think and do. What a comforting fact! God as Spirit *desires* me to worship him, is actually “seeking men to worship him” (John 4:23,24). You have surely found one who will!

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

### CONFESSION OF SIN

I guess I am more troubled by “why” I sin than that I sin. I should suspect Satan is at work in my subconsciousness. If I can convince my subconscious I am in earnest about bringing every thought into captivity, it would be done! Dear God, please forgive me! Forgive and wash me clean! but help me to stay clean.

*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

Jesus, Savior, pilot me  
Over life’s tempestuous sea;  
Unknown waves before me roll,  
Hiding rock and treacherous shoal;

Chart and compass came from Thee:  
Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

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

### HIS WORD

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer — at three in the afternoon. <sup>2</sup>Now a man crippled from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. <sup>3</sup>When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. <sup>4</sup>Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, “Look at us!” <sup>5</sup>So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them. <sup>6</sup>Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” —Acts 3:1-6, NIV

### READ HIS WORD TO HIM

How good to talk about persons who are with you now. To discuss the glad day when Peter and John moved to the place of prayer — at the hour of prayer. I am glad you directed Luke to record this. In 2,000 years the record has not been lost. The preciousness of that record is just as real today as when it happened. All of this is a true source of wonder and praise for me. There is someone else in heaven — the unnamed beggar. I know he has a name and you know him. I want to meet him. I do praise and thank you for this beautiful story.

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

### READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

There are those who carried him. These people took a personal, unselfish interest in the beggar. I want to meet these people too. To have never walked, to see others walking and not be able — I can only try to imagine it. Dear Lord, thank you for the right use of

every member of my body. I want to identify with the day-by-day weariness, the day-by-day limitation — begging from others. To beg even from you hardly seems natural. We ask as a son not as a stranger, but to be a beggar among men! There are yet multitudes of such persons in our world. I have forgotten. Dear Lord, forgive!

*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

This is a veritable cornucopia of thanksgiving: (1) Thank you for the hours of prayer — how is it I can only find one hour? (2) Thank you for our many public places of worship. (3) Thank you that our bodies are even *now* your Temple indwelt by your Spirit. (4) Thank you for the types of miracles you have chosen — cases with no doubt of their condition — “crippled from birth, carried daily” — more than “40 years old.” (5) That Peter and John had mercy upon him — or were moved by your Spirit to express concern (perhaps they saw him often). (6) That Peter and John were poor men — like most men — but they did have a wonderful gift for the beggar. (7) For the joy and confidence seen in the attitude and actions of all three.

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

### READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

There are two billion beggars outside God’s Temple gate. If this beggar ever heard of Jesus we do not know it. We can *know* there are two billion people who have never, never heard the name of our Lord. I believe many, many of them would be just as responsive as this man before us. But some of us must see them. Dear God, move me to prayer, but *more*, move me to speak to them, touch them, raise them, heal them! How is it we are so willing to do nothing?

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

### READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

How I want to pray according to your word: (1) If Peter and John found time for prayer three times a day, why can’t I? (2) Are there beggars at my gate? (3) Open my heart to the poor! (4) Make me kind toward those who disagree with me. (5) Lead me to those with felt needs. (6) Help me to look until I really see. (7) I can only give what I have — is it salvation?

*Right here add your personal requests — and his answers.*

### READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

I open my inner ear: (1) “There are many crippled people among the religious.” (2) “Speak straight to the heart of those in need.” (3) “Your faith can ‘do

greater works.’ ”

### INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

*Micronesia* — Points for prayer: (1) *Although Christianized for a century or more*, many small island communities need spiritual help. The great distances and poor communications hamper all evangelistic, pastoral and literature distribution work. (2) *The Bible Society*, based in Guam, has performed a remarkable service in initiating new translation projects, revising archaic Scripture portions and providing new reader scriptures. Pray for translators, consultants and distributors of God’s Word. At least six other language groups will need NT translations. (3) *Christian Radio, Far East Broadcasting Company* has built a powerful station on Saipan, with eight expatriate workers, for broadcasting to the USSR and E.Asia and to the local Chamorro people.

### SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

The Great Physician now is near,  
The sympathizing Jesus;  
He speaks the drooping heart to cheer,  
Oh, hear the voice of Jesus.  
Sweetest note in seraph song.  
Sweetest name on mortal tongue;  
Sweetest carol ever sung,  
Jesus, blessed Jesus.