

## Devotional Diary 28 April – 4 May 2014

### Readings for Sunday 4 May (with thanks to [www.gbod.org](http://www.gbod.org))

[Acts 2:14a, 36-41](#) The message of the resurrection of the crucified one compels a response: "What shall we do?" Repent, and be baptized -- then the life of the risen Christ will come to you.

**Psalm response:** [Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19](#) "Then I called on the name of the LORD: 'O LORD, I pray, save my life!'"

[1 Peter 1:17-23](#) Those baptized into the Risen One are exiles who live in reverent fear, hope, because the blood of Christ ransoms us, and love one another from the heart.

[Luke 24:13-35](#) On the road to Emmaus, Jesus reminds two dispirited followers of all they have seen and heard, its grounding in Scripture, and what next steps they can take to live this way now. They "get it" only when he breaks the bread.

### **Monday:**

Adoration Focus: But I will sing of your strength, in the morning I will sing of your love; for you are my fortress, my refuge in times of trouble. (Psalm 59:16)

Confession: Lord, forgive me when I have crushed the sensitive spirit with a heavy-handed response.

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom

Shared Focus: This week: praying for peace. The peace (shalom) of God is not just the absence of conflict but also the presence of health and wholeness. As you pray for peace in various areas picture what shape this health and wholeness will take in the different contexts and pray accordingly. Today we pray for inner peace. Peace within your own heart and the hearts of your neighbours.

Personal prayers: (Use this section to list people you need to pray for or situations of personal concern that you need to bring before God in prayer)

Dedication: Show us good Lord, the peace we should seek, the peace we must give, the peace we can keep, the peace we must forgo, and the peace you have given us in Jesus our Lord. (Caryl Micklem)

### **Tuesday:**

Adoration Focus: For great is your love, reaching to the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies. (Psalm 57:10)

Confession: Lord, forgive me when I have lost control and have hurt others deeply.

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: See Monday's shared focus. Today we pray for peace in relationships between people that are victims of some kind of prejudice – (gender, race, age, etc.)

Personal Prayers:

Dedication: Show us good Lord, the peace we should seek, the peace we must give, the peace we can keep, the peace we must forgo, and the peace you have given us in Jesus our Lord. (Caryl Micklem)

### **Wednesday:**

Adoration Focus: Surely God is my help; the Lord is the one who sustains me... (Psalm 54:4)

Confession: Lord you have called me to praise your holy name. So often it is my name alone that I seek to praise and lift up. Help me to lift up your name in praise.

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: See Monday's shared focus. Today we pray for peace in families. We pray for peace where there is abuse, be it physical, sexual or emotional.

Personal prayers:

Dedication: Show us good Lord, the peace we should seek, the peace we must give, the peace we can keep, the peace we must forgo, and the peace you have given us in Jesus our Lord. (Caryl Micklem)

**Thursday:**

Adoration Focus: I will praise you forever for what you have done; in your name I will hope, for your name is good. (Psalm 52:9)

Confession: Lord I sometimes despise people. You take delight in them. Help me to take delight in the people I encounter.

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: See Monday's shared focus. Pray for peace in the area of crime and violence. Focus particularly on the health and wholeness issue. Pray that our society may be a healthy one. Focus on a specific way in which we can move in this direction and pray accordingly.

Personal prayers:

Dedication: Show us good Lord, the peace we should seek, the peace we must give, the peace we can keep, the peace we must forgo, and the peace you have given us in Jesus our Lord. (Caryl Micklem)

**Friday:**

Adoration Focus: The Mighty One, the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to the place where it sets. (Psalm 50:1)

Confession: Lord, the splendour of your creation has grown familiar in my eyes. Help me to look at it in new ways and realise your greatness yet again.

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: See Monday's shared focus. Today we pray for our world. Choose a country for which you have a concern and pray for God's peace to be realised in a specific way there.

Personal prayers:

Dedication: Show us good Lord, the peace we should seek, the peace we must give, the peace we can keep, the peace we must forgo, and the peace you have given us in Jesus our Lord. (Caryl Micklem)

**Saturday:**

Adoration Focus: But God will redeem my life from the grave; he will surely take me to himself. (Psalm 49:15)

Confession: Lord sometimes I worship the stars and not you who name them. Today help me to worship the one who controls the stars and who guides us in His paths.

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: See Monday's shared focus. Today, pray for any area of concern that surfaces as important for you. Into what scenario do you need to pray God's peace?

Personal prayers:

Dedication: Show us good Lord, the peace we should seek, the peace we must give, the peace we can keep, the peace we must forgo, and the peace you have given us in Jesus our Lord. (Caryl Micklem)

**Sunday:**

Adoration Focus: For this God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even to the end. (Psalm 48:14)

Confession: Lord, forgive me when I rely on my own strength and wisdom. You are the one who lifts us up. Today I turn to you.

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: See Monday's shared focus. Today we pray for peace in church communities. We focus on internal rivalry and unresolved conflict and strife.

Personal prayers:

Dedication: Show us good Lord, the peace we should seek, the peace we must give, the peace we can keep, the peace we must forgo, and the peace you have given us in Jesus our Lord. (Caryl Micklem)