

Daily Rhythm

Making worship part of the everyday
Rhythm of Worship // www.jamesnicolson.co.za

Devotional Diary 27 July - 2 August 2015

Readings for this week with thanks to www.umcdiscipleship.org:

[2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a](#). David takes Bathsheba, pregnant with his child, into his household as one of his wives when news of Uriah's death/murder arrives. The Lord sends Nathan to rebuke David and to announce a curse upon him and his family. David acknowledges his sin.

[Psalm 51:1-12](#). A psalm sometimes described as David's confession after the confrontation with Nathan.

[Ephesians 4:1-16](#). The abundant giftedness of the members of the body of Christ is designed by God to build up its unity under Jesus Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

[John 6:24-35](#). Jesus announces to the crowd that crossed the sea to catch up with him, "I am the bread of life."

Monday:

Adoration Focus: "When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died..." Each day spend a minute picturing Christ giving His life for you and give Him praise.

Confession: Christ has given His life for you, what is He asking you to give to him? This is a process: each day bring more of your life to God. Focus: your love...

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom

Shared Focus: This week: praying that the world may see Christ lifted up from the earth (His death on the cross) and be drawn by the sacrificial love of God. Each day pray for a different aspect of life: the lonely, those abandoned by love, people that are embittered, the abused etc. Who will you pray for today?

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: "I will go Lord, where you lead me..."

Tuesday:

Adoration Focus: "When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died..." Each day spend a minute picturing Christ giving His life for you and give Him praise.

Confession: Christ has given His life for you, what is He asking you to give to him? This is a process: each day bring more of your life to God. Focus: your creative energy...

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: This week: praying that the world may see Christ lifted up from the earth (His death on the cross) and be drawn by the sacrificial love of God. Each day pray for a different aspect of life: the lonely, those abandoned by love, people that are embittered, the abused etc. Who will you pray for today?

Personal Prayers:

Dedication: "I will go Lord, where you lead me..."

Wednesday:

Adoration Focus: "When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died..." Each day spend a minute picturing Christ giving His life for you and give Him praise.

Confession: Christ has given His life for you, what is He asking you to give to him? This is a process: each day bring more of your life to God. Focus: Your future...

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: This week: praying that the world may see Christ lifted up from the earth (His death on the cross) and be drawn by the sacrificial love of God. Each day pray for a different aspect of life: the lonely, those abandoned by love, people that are embittered, the abused etc. Who will you pray for today?

Personal prayers:

Dedication: "I will go Lord, where you lead me..."

Thursday:

Adoration Focus: "When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died..." Each day spend a minute picturing Christ giving His life for you and give Him praise.

Confession: Christ has given His life for you, what is He asking you to give to him? This is a process: each day bring more of your life to God. Your financial resources...

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: This week: praying that the world may see Christ lifted up from the earth (His death on the cross) and be drawn by the sacrificial love of God. Each day pray for a different aspect of life: the lonely, those abandoned by love, people that are embittered, the abused etc. Who will you pray for today?

Personal prayers:

Dedication: "I will go Lord, where you lead me..."

Friday:

Adoration Focus: "When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died..." Each day spend a minute picturing Christ giving His life for you and give Him praise.

Confession: Christ has given His life for you, what is He asking you to give to him? This is a process: each day bring more of your life to God. Your time...

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: This week: praying that the world may see Christ lifted up from the earth (His death on the cross) and be drawn by the sacrificial love of God. Each day pray for a different aspect of life: the lonely, those abandoned by love, people that are embittered, the abused etc. Who will you pray for today?

Personal prayers:

Dedication: "I will go Lord, where you lead me..."

Saturday:

Adoration Focus: "When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died..." Each day spend a minute picturing Christ giving His life for you and give Him praise.

Confession: Christ has given His life for you, what is He asking you to give to him? This is a process: each day bring more of your life to God. Your focus...

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: This week: praying that the world may see Christ lifted up from the earth (His death on the cross) and be drawn by the sacrificial love of God. Each day pray for a different aspect of life: the lonely, those abandoned by love, people that are embittered, the abused etc. Who will you pray for today?

Personal prayers:

Dedication: "I will go Lord, where you lead me..."

Sunday:

Adoration Focus: "When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died..." Each day spend a minute picturing Christ giving His life for you and give Him praise.

Confession: Christ has given His life for you, what is He asking you to give to him? This is a process: each day bring more of your life to God. Your worship...

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: This week: praying that the world may see Christ lifted up from the earth (His death on the cross) and be drawn by the sacrificial love of God. Each day pray for a different aspect of life: the lonely, those abandoned by love, people that are embittered, the abused etc. Who will you pray for today?

Personal prayers:

Dedication: "I will go Lord, where you lead me..."

Weekly Rhythm
Joining our stories with the stories of God's people.
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In our spiritual tradition there is a daily, weekly and seasonal (yearly) cycle, all working together to breathe God's life into us and connect us in a worshipful relationship with our Creator. This resource explores these rhythms from the perspective of the Christian Year (using the Revised Common Lectionary). It is aimed at those who want to journey with these texts in a transformational way, particularly from a worship perspective. Each week we will share around the set texts as they inspire our daily, weekly and yearly rhythms.

Sunday 2 August is the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost (Ordinary Time), Year B

Questions and prayers to explore readings:

(Notes in italics are with thanks to www.umcdiscipleship.org.)

As you read remember the three basic questions: What does the passage say? What does the passage mean? How does it apply to my life?

[2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a](#). *David takes Bathsheba, pregnant with his child, into his household as one of his wives when news of Uriah's death/murder arrives. The Lord sends Nathan to rebuke David and to announce a curse upon him and his family. David acknowledges his sin.*

Prayer in Times of Violence and Fear

Almighty, all-merciful God,
through Christ Jesus you have taught us to love one another,
to love our neighbors as ourselves,
and even to love our enemies.

In times of violence and fear,
let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts,
so that we may not be overcome with evil
but overcome evil with good.

Help us to see each person in light of the love and grace
you have shown us in Christ.

Put away the nightmares of terror
and awaken us to the dawning of your new creation.

Establish among us a future where peace reigns,
justice is done with mercy, and all are reconciled.

We ask these things in the name
and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

~ From a collection of *Prayers for Times of National and International Crisis and Tragedy*, posted on the **PCUSA** website. <http://www.pcusa.org/>

[Psalm 51:1-12](#). *A psalm sometimes described as David's confession after the confrontation with Nathan.*

Prayer (based on Psalm 51)

God of Compassion,
We turn toward you now. We rend our hearts.
Forgive our pride and forgive our insecurities.
Forgive our self-absorption and forgive our self-destruction.
Forgive our doubts and forgive our confidence.
Forgive our longing for attention and forgive our desire to hide.
Forgive each step we take away from you.

"Create in me a clean heart, O God. And renew a right spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence. Do not take your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of my salvation, and grant a willing spirit to sustain me."

~ posted by Joanna Harader on **Spacious Faith**. <http://spaciousfaith.com/>

Prayer of Petition (inspired by Psalm 51:12)

Restore to us the joy of your salvation, Lord.
May refugees be restored to safety.
May flooded land be restored to fertile ground.
May broken hearts be restored to wholeness.
May fearful lives be restored to peaceful rest.
May compassion fatigue be restored to hopeful perseverance.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation, Lord.
Grant in us a willing spirit to sustain us.
Amen.

~ posted on the *Monthly Prayers* page of the **Christian Aid** website. <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/churches/prayer/church-seasons.aspx>

[**Ephesians 4:1-16**](#). *The abundant giftedness of the members of the body of Christ is designed by God to build up its unity under Jesus Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Prayer for Unity (John 17:23, Romans 15:5, Ephesians 4:3, 13, Colossians 3:14)

Father of all who live in the Spirit,
you have brought unity through your Son Jesus Christ:
help all who profess his name to show in their lives,
in their worship, and their evangelism
that oneness which springs from the truth
as it is found in Jesus,
and fill your church with the desire
both to seek and find that unity
throughout the world; in his name. Amen.

~ written by Michael Saward. Posted on **The Jubilate Group** website. <http://www.jubilate.co.uk/liturgy/>

[**John 6:24-35**](#). *Jesus announces to the crowd that crossed the sea to catch up with him, "I am the bread of life."*

Gospel Reflection (inspired by John 6:24-35)

Our bellies are full	power that opened our minds
We are refreshed	power that challenged us
Our minds are no longer dulled	and made us see
By that gnawing ache of hunger	...a hunger we had not known
And yet ...we long	...(Jesus Said)
There was more that took place on that day	a hunger from deep within
Than just the loaves	which now that it has become loosed
...and fishes	will not be bound again
what happened was good	until it is fed
...in the way creation was pronounced good	...(I am) and nourished
and yet ...we hunger for more	as only God ...(the Bread)
not just the food	as the Creator of all
that eased our hunger	...(of life)can do
but there was power in the words that were spoken	

~ written by Dan Bollerud, and posted on **Pastor Dan's Grace Notes**. <http://coslcgrace.blogspot.ca/>