

THE PRAYER CORNER

JOYFULNESS

contempt upon some poor devil in rags and tatters, and thank God that we are not like other folks about us, and it may satisfy us, but God, who sees and knows us as we are, will not sanctify nor purify us so long as we set ourselves above others and glory in Him. But if we humble ourselves, and cry unto Him to be merciful unto us, sinners that we are, we can be exalted, even to a place of equality with Jesus Christ, brother, in the Kingdom of God, Father.

In continuation of this lesson in prayer, go on through the whole chapter, and get the vision of the young ruler coming to Christ asking what he might do to have eternal life. He wanted Christ, he wanted Christ, he wanted Christ, he could not do what Jesus told him to do, and went away, sorrowful. Then compare that with the closing scene in the chapter where the blind man talked with Jesus, and prayed unto Him for sight, and prayed in faith, and received his sight.

No one can be a Christian without constant prayer. We do not mean that one must pray every moment, but one must be in communication with God at all times. Let us illustrate it in this manner: You have a telephone in your office and one in your home. You can converse with your loved ones at any moment that you may desire. You do not use the telephone every moment, yet you have it there when necessary. Then keep a line of communication with God every day for instant use. Go on about your work, as God wants us to do, and communicate with Him. If we are tempted, or if we fail or fall, or about to fail or fall, then let us realize that our power is not sufficient, that we are weak and God is strong, and then talk to Him about it. Then let us do as Jesus often did, go out to places of silence, and commune with God in prayer. Jesus prayed, depending much time in prayer, communing with the Father. If He, the Son, prayed, how much more necessary is it for us, sinners that we are, to pray and pray, in a spirit of humility, recognizing our own utter and absolute dependence upon God for every blessing and every protection that we have.

Let us learn, however, how to pray, and for what to pray. There is no need for us to pray to God to give us a diamond ring, a little bit bigger and little bit more brilliant than Mrs. So-and-So's diamond; nor can we expect God to answer our prayer when we ask Him to let us prosper and make money at the expense of other children of God. Nor will God hear our prayers if we ask Him to bless us, and prosper us, and smile upon us, if we fail to ask the same blessings for all others about us. God hears no prayer that is prompted by selfishness and self-interest. He gave His only begotten Son for the salvation of the peoples of the world, and Christianity must be as broad as that, if it avails us anything. Jesus rebuked His disciples when they tried to keep the little children away from Him, and a few minutes later He rebuked them when they tried to make the blind man hush up his cryers to Jesus for relief of his blindness. So will we be rebuked if we are more than blessed when we try to get God all to ourselves and for ourselves. We must manifest the concern for others that we expect Him to manifest for us. Prayer is wonderful, when we

lovely, and of good report. If there be any virtue and any praise, Jesus affirmed these things of God.

A PRAYER FOR JOYFULNESS
O Thou who didst lay the foundations of the earth amid the singing of the morning stars and the joyful shouts of the Sons of God, lift up our little life into Thy Gladness. Out of Thee as out of an overflowing fountain of Love wells forth Eternally a stream of Blessing upon every creature Thou hast made. If we thought that Thou didst call into being the universe in order to win praise and honor for Thyself, rebuke the vain fancies of our foolish minds, and show us that Thy glory is the Joy of Giving.

We can give Thee nothing of our own. All that we have is thine. Oh then help us to glorify Thee by striving to be like Thee. Make us just and pure and good as Thou art. Make us partakers of the Divine Nature so that all that is truly human in us may be deepened, purified and strengthened. And so may we be witnesses of Thee, lights of the world reflecting Thy Light.

Help us to make religion a thing so beautiful that all men and women may be won to surrender to its power. Let us manifest in our lives its sweetness and excellency and joyfulness, its free and ennobling spirit. Forbid that we should go up and down the world with melancholy looks and dejected visage, lest we should repel men and women from entering Thy Kingdom. Rather may we walk in the Freedom and Joyfulness of Faith, and with Thy New Song in our mouths, so that men and women looking on us, may learn to trust and love Thee.

O God grant that the Sun of Righteousness may never cease to shine within my heart and to fill me with continual joy. And so may the desert places of my nature rejoice and blossom as the Rose, and the earthly within me be changed unto the heavenly to Thy praise and glory through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Another reason for this exultant spirit in Jesus is also fundamental. He had the most joyous ideal of God that ever was thought of. He taught His disciples that they could take the most beautiful aspects of human life, like fatherhood, and lifting them up to the best they could imagine, could say, "God is much better than this: 'If ye then being evil,' he said, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father"—(Matt. 7:11)

This is the most joyous thought of God of which we know. For centuries men had enthroned in heaven their evil with their good, their jealousies, even their lusts and passions. Jesus taught men to interpret God in terms of the Spiritually Best they could imagine, "Whatever things are just, true, honourable, pure,

know how to pray. Charles G. Finney says that "prayer bathes the soul in an atmosphere of the divine presence. Prayer communes with God and brings the whole mind under the hallowed influence of such communion. Prayer goes to God to seek pardon and find mercy and grace to help. Truly, we need not wonder that God should enjoin it upon us to pray always."

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—C. D. C.

NEXT

We contribute to your good looks. You can get a Vitalis treatment here, the vegetable oil tonic, also the Fitch products.

It Pays To Look Well

SMITH'S BARBER SHOP



India-Ceylon
Java

NECTAR TEA

Orange Pekoe—India Ceylon

1/4 lb. 17c 1/2 lb. 33c
Pkg. Pkg.

3 2-oz. Pkgs. 25c



OUR OWN TEA

1/2 lb. 23c
Pkg.

MILK

WHITE HOUSE
EVAPORATED

3 cans 19c

TOMATOES

Full Pack

No. 2 Cans 25c

EAGLE MILK

can 17c

A&P Fancy Sieve
PEAS No. 2 Can 19c

Pillsbury FLOUR

12 lb. 24 lb.
49c 91c

A&P Pure GRAPE JUICE

Pint Bottle 19c

Coffee Supreme
Bokar lb. Tin 29c

STRING BEANS

Iona Brand

No. 2 Cans 29c

PEACHES

Del Monte

Large Can 19c

GARDEN RELISH

Rajah Brand

10-oz. Jar 15c

SAUER KRAUT — LIBBY'S —

3

No. 2 Cans 25c

TWO LBS. GREEN BEANS or PEAS, 25c

NEW IRISH POTATOES, 5-lb 25c

LARGE BUNCHES ASPARAGUS, 25c

STRAWBERRIES

The Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co.