

PRAYER BULLETIN #90, 10Mar2021

DRAWING NEAR TO GOD

*But as for me, it is good to be near God.
I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge;
I will tell of all your deeds.
Psalm 73:28.*

REFLECTION

As we continue into the season of Lent, we are reminded that it is a time marked with personal and corporate repentance and fasting. The season of Lent is a time where believers prepare themselves for the Holy Week leading right up to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

How are you observing the season of Lent?

The practice of fasting is a common feature during this season. One can fast from (one or a combination of) food, festivities or anything that preoccupy us most in our daily lives so that attention is given to the appreciation of Christ's loving sacrifice on the cross. Others may slow down in the amount activities so as to give more time to the reading and reflecting on scriptural passages that speak of God's promised Messiah. Still others may spend time in adoration of God through extended time of singing and worshipping, or just a simple stroll in the park or a garden. Whatever the form you choose, the focus is not about the form but on the purpose of Lent - to draw closer to God, be attentive to His presence and be appreciative of His love, mercy and grace demonstrated through His Son Jesus Christ.

It may not be easy for many of us to get some quiet time to be alone because we all live such busy lives. Moments of quietness or aloneness can be a luxury for some of us. But in order to be attentive and appreciative of God's presence and love, we would need to be intentional and committed to setting aside some regular time during this season for this purpose. It can be from 15min to 30mins per day, depending on the form you choose to be attentive and appreciative. You can also choose to have some extended time during the weekends to linger on in God's presence. Whatever the amount of time you spend, do enjoy being in His presence, knowing that He delights in being with you.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, You long to have us draw near to You daily and commune with You. Cause our hearts to yearn for You always and during this season of Lent, cause our hearts to appreciate dearly Your love for us through Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

SUPPLICATION

- The Lord longs for us to be with Him. Do you have such longings to spend time with Him? If not, ask God for a desire to draw nearer to Him. There is no need to hide for He knows your heart already; so be honest with Him. Just tell Him and ask of Him. Allow God to do His work through the power of the Holy Spirit in you. If you have such longings, ask the Lord to draw you deeper in love and fellowship with Him.
- Do you know of someone, a family member or friend, who knew the Lord Jesus once but is now "far away" from Him for whatever reasons they may be? Pray for God to call out to these people even through the working of the Holy Spirit. Pray that the Holy Spirit would remove any resistance in their hearts and minds so that they may be responsive to God's beckoning. Ask the Lord to grant you a persevering spirit to pray for them and to see them return to Him one day.
- Pray for those who have yet to know the Lord Jesus. As Good Friday and Easter approach in the coming weeks, there are many opportunities for them to hear the good news of Jesus Christ. Pray for God to open more opportunities for them to encounter believers who could share with them. Pray also for hearts and minds to be curious, desiring to know more about Jesus, and open to receive Him as their Lord and Saviour.
- Pray for your Church, small group members and family members, that the Lord would grant them all a heart that yearns more of Him, His truth and Spirit in their lives. As we draw nearer to God, the more we should reflect of Him in us. Pray for God ignite their hearts with a burning passion for Him even during this season of Lent.

*As we draw near to God,
He will draw near to us.
And day by day,
the hope of God's light
will grow within us,
brighter and brighter
until the perfect day.
Dieter F. Uchtdorf*

**If you need any prayer or pastoral care support, kindly contact the pastoral care team via:
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