

Good News Daily

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Sunday, November 21

Romans 15:5-13 Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (v.13 NKJV)

This is my fervent prayer for each of you readers of Good News Daily: May God's Holy Spirit continue to work deep faith in your hearts and lives. May you grow each day deeper in His grace and truth as you read His word, meditate on it, and pray. May you walk with God in your work and play. May your family follow Jesus more nearly each day and share his love for those around you.

Paul sends this loving wish to the Christian church in Rome and I send it to you!

Prayer: Dear Jesus, help us all be filled with your joy and peace in believing.

Isaiah 19:19-25; Psalm 118; Luke 19:11-27

Monday, November 22

Psalm 106:1-18 Oh give thanks to the LORD for He is good, for His loving kindness is everlasting. (v.1b)

I have found a wonderful activity for Thanksgiving week is to write a list of all the things for which we are grateful (another good choice is to write down 10 thanksgivings each day). Cultivating an attitude of gratitude is such an important spiritual discipline. It is far too easy to take all of God's blessings for granted.

Thanksgiving is something we need to practice daily. Too often, our prayer time is an "all request program," a to-do list for God, just "give mes" and no "thank yous." I am sure God loves to answer our prayers and intercessions with His good gifts, but I feel sure He takes even greater delight in hearing our gratitude.

Prayer: Thank You, Heavenly Father, for all Your blessings

Joel 3:1-2, 9-17; 1 Peter 1:1-12; Matthew 19:1-12

Tuesday, November 23

Matthew 19:13-22 Then some children were brought to Him that He might lay His hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, "Let the children alone and do not hinder them from coming to Me for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (vv.13-14)

What a beautiful experience for these children to have Jesus lay his hands on them and pray for them. He has often said that we all need to have faith like little children, with pure hearts. Their lives must have been richly blessed by this encounter with our Savior.

Are the children in your life meeting Jesus in faith-building activities? Are you getting them to Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, having mealtime and bedtime prayers with them, sharing Bible stories with them during reading time? Are we helping them grow in grace and knowledge of the truth?

Prayer: Dear Lord, please help me share my faith with my children and grandchildren, and help them grow strong in You.

Nahum 1:1-13; Psalms 120, 121, 122, 123; 1 Peter 1:13-25

Wednesday, November 24

1 Peter 2:1-10 You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellence of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. (v.9)

The apostle Peter is pointing out our unique status in God's forever family. We are His own possession. He has created us. His Son Jesus has redeemed us, and His Holy Spirit is now sanctifying us so that we can tell others this good news.

We once walked and stumbled in darkness, but as children of God we now can walk in His marvelous light and serve Him with gladness and singleness of heart. Verse 3 of our Scripture passage says: “You have tasted the kindness of the Lord” so, as we count our blessings one by one this Thanksgiving week, let us remember all the great things the Lord has done for us.

Prayer: Thank you dear Jesus, for all the many great gifts you have given us.

Obadiah 15-21; Psalm 119:145-176; Matthew 19:23-30

Thursday, November 25

1 Peter 2:11-25 *By His wounds you are healed.* (v.24)

This verse is often shared at our church’s healing service by a woman suffering from cancer. Her strong faith is a gift to all of us.

On this day of national Thanksgiving it is another reason for an attitude of gratitude—Jesus paid the price for our salvation and healing when He died on the cross of Calvary. This is one of our greatest gifts from our Triune God.

I am so grateful that we can cast all our cares on Jesus because he cares for us. He brings us hope and healing.

Prayer: Thank you, Lord Jesus, for your victory over sin, death, and the devil.

Zephaniah 3:1-13; Psalms 131, 132, 133; Matthew 20:1-16

Friday, November 26

1 Peter 3:13—4:6 *Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to anyone who asks you for an account for the hope that is in you. yet with gentleness and reverence.* (v.15)

Do you have an answer if someone asks you why you are a Christian? Is it because your parents were Christians? Or your spouse is a Christian? Or you want your children to have good moral training and healthy sports activities at church?

Or have you had a personal encounter with our living, loving Lord? Has He delivered you from some deadly sickness, financial problem, family disaster, or sin-filled life? You need to have your story ready to share! And as Saint Peter says, do it with gentleness and reverence.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, thank you for your activity in my life, and help me share my faith story with those who need to hear it.

Isaiah 24:14-23; Psalms 140, 142; Matthew 20:17-28

Saturday, November 27

1 Peter 4:7-19 *Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another because love covers a multitude of sin.* (v.8)

In *The Message* translation of the Bible this verse reads, “Love each other as if your life depended on it”—so true, our life in Christ does depend on our love for God and our love for our brothers and sisters in Christ. We are one in the Spirit and one in the Lord—we need each other.

Can it be said of us in our church, as it was of the early Christians, “See how they love one another”? And see how they reach out to those outside the church with loving acts of kindness and service? Jesus says we will be known by the kind of fruit we produce.

Prayer: Dear Lord, help us love and serve one another as You have loved and served us.

Micah 7:11-20; Psalms 137, 144; Matthew 20:29-34

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