

Prayer Calendar

August 2018

Holiness of Heart and Life

Consider this prayer of discipleship by St. Richard of Chichester: "Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits thou hast given me, for all the pains and insults thou hast borne for me. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly, day by day. Amen." (1197-1253)

Wednesday, August 1

Ecclesiastes 3:1: For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

~ Gracious Lord, you have given us time for everything that we need to do. Show me how to take time this month to know you more, love you more deeply and serve you more faithfully.

Thursday, August 2

Psalms 46:10: Be still, and know that I am God!

~ Holy God, still my spirit and quiet my mind that I might pay attention to your presence and action in my life.

Friday, August 3

Psalms 119:18: Open my eyes, so that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.

~ Lord, it is so easy to look and not see the wonders of your grace. Help me today to actually behold the beauty that surrounds me and know of your love.

Saturday, August 4

Genesis 1:1-2: In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

~ Creating God, help me remember to give thanks and praise every day for your creation and know that all things come from you!

Sunday, August 5

Psalms 8:1: O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

~ Gracious God, to see the work of your hands is to know that you are continually creating and giving to all of creation.

Monday, August 6

Exodus 31:15: Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the LORD.

~ Holy God, we know of your love and care for us by giving us the opportunity to rest and care for our bodies and minds. Help me today to rest well and know it is a gift from you.

Tuesday, August 7

Isaiah 55:8: For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

~ Amazing God, how will I ever grasp the vastness and greatness that is you? Today I will remember that you are beyond my imaginings and I am a finite creature.

Wednesday, August 8

Jeremiah 29:11: For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm to give you a future with hope.

~ Loving Lord, it is good to know that you lead me into a future with hope because I know you love and care for me. Today I give thanks for: _____.

Thursday, August 9

John 1:1: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

~ Holy One, I know that all things begin and end with you. Let me be content with that.

Friday, August 10

Psalms 130:4: But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

~ Gracious God, to be forgiven is to be loved. I know that I am forgiven and restored to a right relationship with you through Christ Jesus and I am grateful.

Saturday, August 11

Psalms 130:5: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

~ Loving God, you wait for me always because your love is true. Today, I want to wait on your time, in your way. Help me wait with hope for your movement.

Sunday, August 12

Psalm 5:11: But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, so that those who love your name may exult in you.

~ Holy Lord, I sing with joy knowing that you love me in spite of my actions. Today I will love neighbor remembering that is what you call me to do.

Monday, August 13

Psalm 130:7-8: O my name, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. It is he who will redeem my name from all my iniquities.

~ Forgiving God, I can have a loving relationship with you because you love and forgive me. I am so grateful that I do not have to live in the power of sin, but can be free in Christ Jesus.

Tuesday, August 14

Psalm 36:5: Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

~ Loving God, as your love goes beyond my understanding or comprehension, help me this week to pay attention to those who do not know love. Help me love those whom I have found difficult to love and to love them as you love them. This is hard – help me.

Wednesday, August 15

Lamentations 3: 22: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end.

~ Great God, this great promise gives me hope. Today enable me to show those mercies to others and reflect in the love of God that never ceases.

Thursday, August 16

Psalm 70: 4: Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you. Let those who love your salvation say ever more, "God is great!"

~ Lord, sometimes I don't act as though I am your beloved child. Sometimes I allow the worries and cares of life carry away my gladness. Today, I will remember and be glad in you.

Friday, August 17

Micah 6:8: He has told you, O mortal, what is good and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.

~ Gracious God, I ask what is your will and yet you have already told me...do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with you. Why do I forget this? Help me remember.

Saturday, August 18

John 1:34-35: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

~ Loving Jesus, you command us to love one another as you loved us – I wonder why I struggle so much of the time? Help me get out of the way and love others like you.

Sunday, August 19

Psalm 13:5: But I trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

~ Gracious Lord, when I trust in your love, fully trust, then I let go of all my worries and concerns. Lead me by the hand – I trust you today for: _____.

Monday, August 20

Deuteronomy 6:4: Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. You shall love the LORD our God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.

~ God, here is your truth for your will for my life – that I love you with all that I am, with my whole self – that is your true will for me. When I am afraid, help me remember.

Tuesday, August 21

I Samuel 12:24: Only fear (love/respect) the LORD, and serve him faithfully with all your heart; for considering what great things he has done for you.

~ Almighty God, you have delivered me from fear-filled days and anxious nights. Help me let go of my fears so that I may more fully serve you. Today I let go of: _____.

Wednesday, August 22

Mark 10:45: For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

~ Loving Jesus, you call me to serve others as you did through teaching, caring, healing, and even washing feet. When there are feet to wash, nudge my heart to do that, too.

Thursday, August 23

John 12:26: Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am there will be my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

~ Lord Jesus, to serve in your name is my response to the goodness you have shown to me. Reveal to me how you call me to serve in your name today.

Friday, August 24

Colossians 3: 23: Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord and not for your masters.

~ Gracious God, it is so easy to get sidetracked and forget for whom I serve. It is easy to be overwhelmed by all the good things you call me to do. Help me remember it is not the task, but loving you that is the most important.

Saturday, August 25

Colossians 3:17: And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

~ Lord Jesus, sometimes I forget how grateful I am to be your child and to serve in your name. Today I am grateful for:

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Sunday, August 26

Romans 12:11: Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.

~ Loving God, give me energy for today. Empower me to serve only you especially when I am tired, overwhelmed or just plain exhausted. Help me to rest and not burn out.

Monday, August 27

1 Peter 4:10: Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

~ Holy Spirit, you have given me gifts to serve God to build up the church. Show me how to use my gifts not for my own glory, but for your glory, the body of Christ.

Tuesday, August 28

1 Corinthians 15: 58: Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

~ Gracious Lord, sometimes it seems like we are pushing uphill. It seems like there is so much to do and no time to do it. It seems like what I do doesn't make any difference. But, in your Spirit Lord, I can be encouraged not to give up, but to be patient.

Wednesday, August 29

1 Timothy 1: 12: I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service . . .

~ Christ Jesus, you have called each of us by name for a purpose. Today, I hear your voice and I step out in faith to be your hands and feet in the world. Take away my fear and replace it with love for neighbor.

Thursday, August 30

John 13:14-15: So if I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example that you also should do as I have done to you.

~ Jesus, sometimes I forget that I live out my faith in service to others. Those quiet, humble and unglamorous jobs are where I can find you. I see your face in unlikely places and in unlikely people; open my eyes that I may really see the need and meet it in your name.

Friday, August 31

Isaiah 52:7: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace (shalom), rings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

~ Lord Jesus, you announce God's shalom through your saving grace. I am so grateful that I can know you and in knowing you I can love you more and in loving you more I serve your people with hope.

This prayer calendar is designed to aid you in your daily life of prayer and all scripture is from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible. (NRSV)

Read the scripture for the day over and over, out loud if possible. As you read, listen with an “ear of the heart” to a word or phrase that strikes you.

Reflect on that word or phrase asking yourself the question: “What is God saying to me through this word or phrase at this time?” Spend time in silence with this scripture mulling it over in your mind and heart.

Allow God to speak to you in the silence. Offer a prayer out of your reflection.

Thank God for whatever you received in the silence of your prayer and take that with you through your day.