

Transformation Journal

Daily Devotion for the week of August 1, 2010

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Jesus sent a clear message to his followers regarding being rich. While material things are important, however life is not defined by what one have, even when he/she has a lot. Rather to being rich to God ensures us living a meaningful and abundant life.

Monday

Scripture: **Read** Luke 12:13-21

Observations:

Name Personal Applications:

Journal Questions:

1. What do you value most in life?
 - a. my loved ones
 - b. my assets
 - c. my good health
 - d. my work
 - e. my faith
 - f. my integrity
 - g. my memories
 - h. my time
2. After dying, how would the local paper describe the rich man in the obituaries?
 - A tireless worker
 - A Success story
 - Foolish
 - Enterprising
3. How do you react to the idea that a person's "life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions"?
4. What changes would be required for you to be "rich toward God"? How can this group help you make spiritual preparations for your future?

Prayer Focus: Lord, grant me the courage to live deep in you, even when situations seem to tell that I lose. Help me to trust that there is abundant of good things in store for me by living the kind of life you called me to. Amen.

Tuesday

Read 2 Corinthians 4:18 “So fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”

Observations:

Name Personal Applications:

Journal Questions:

1. When you enter departmental stores like Macy’s and J C Penny, what usually catches your eyes most? Why? What are the ones you usually do not notice ? Why?
2. What does Paul mean to “fix your eyes”? What is the “unseen thing” Paul is referring to?
3. In what ways “seen things” can be distracting/affecting the “unseen”?
4. Since the “unseen” are out of sight from the people, how to ensure its presence?
5. What are the temporary things you can think of? Eternal things?

Prayer Focus: Help me to see beyond what is seen and continue to trust your hand that guides and provides. Help me to look into future with hope and joy.

Wednesday

Scripture: Read John 15: 1-8

Observations:

Name Personal Applications:

Journal Questions:

1. As a child, what kind of plant you are most familiar with?
2. If vine branches were human lives, what pain would be associated with pruning? What tools? What fruit?
3. Jesus repeats: *remain in me, and bear fruit* . How are these words related? Why are there times “remaining in him” seems yield no fruit ? How do you feel in those times?
4. As a branch on Christ’s vine, how would you describe the fruit in your life: Grade A? Juicy? Green?... Why

Prayer Focus: Lord, help me to always be faithful in “remaining in you”. Even in the midst of fruitlessness. Amen.

Thursday

Living a simple life does not mean to live with no money. Rather it is about living without the desire to possess and own. A poor person is not necessary one who lives a holy life. Being wealthy does not necessary keeps one from growing in God. Human’s heart is the deciding factor.

Scripture: **Read** 1 John 2:15-17

Observations:

Name Personal Applications:

Journal Questions:

1. Are you more likely to err on the side of doing what you shouldn’t or not doing what you should?
2. What does the author of 1 John mean by “the world” (v15-17) Is it wrong to love the outdoors or your pet? Are all human desires contrary to God’s will? Why?
3. In what areas of your life does love for the world compete with love for God: In your use of money? Time? Priorities? Relationships? Ambitions?

Prayer Focus: To advocate for our faith best is by living our lives that model it. Amen

Friday

It is true that none of us are perfect people. But that does not mean we no longer need to strive for perfection. On the contrary, it is precisely we are imperfect people that we press to grow, instead to give excuses and do nothing! Christians are called to be optimistic in our outlook. Look forward to the future and believe that all of us will be made perfect one day when we meet our Lord Jesus Christ face to face.

Scripture: Philippians 4: 8-9

Name Personal Applications:

Journal Questions:

1. Which good deed you've done that you feel really good about yourself?
2. What does Paul mean to "think about such things"?
3. The virtues that were mentioned in the text, which one comes to you easy, and which is the difficult one?
4. Paul in V 9 encouraged Philippi Christians to put into practice what he taught and or modeled to them before. In what ways, can we be good models for our Sunday school children and youths? In your opinion, which one thing you think our youths need to see most in us?

Prayer focus: We are not alone in our faith journey. Be optimistic and walk the journey with joy!!

Saturday and Sunday – Read over your notes for the week and see how you are doing with your personal applications.