

LENTEN 2019



I *See* YOU



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Day 29- Monday, April 8, 2019

I See You – Them

Scripture:

Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”

(Luke 23:34 – NKJV)

Devotional Reading:

Jesus had just been crucified and led to the place called Calvary along with two other men. It was a cruel and excruciating execution. As Jesus hung on the cross dying, he took notice of those executioners, soldiers, disciples, family members and the two thieves that he hung between. He looked at them. He saw them.

Then he turned to God and prayed - *“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”* Jesus could have said, “I see you, but you don’t know what you are doing.” But he said, *“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”*

Rightly understood, those who were at Calvary, the ones who conspired and acquiesced to his capital punishment – they are the “them”. But then again, so are you. Every person who has sinned must be included in the “them” that Jesus asked God to forgive.

Who do you need to forgive? Maybe that person has no idea of the pain and suffering you have endured because of what they did to you. Just as Jesus prayed a prayer of forgiveness, it may be that when you forgive them – they just might be saved.

Be a Witness!

Day 30 - Tuesday, April 9, 2019

I See You - Thief

Scripture:

And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."
(Luke 23:43 - NKJV)

Devotional Reading

Jesus gave a sure word to a man who was dying the same death they were both sentenced to. The man was a thief and according to the law and custom, he was deserving of his fate. Jesus on the other hand was innocent and not deserving of a death sentence.

The thief had nothing to offer Jesus other than his admiration and desire for a better end to his life than simply being dead. He asked Jesus to remember him believing that Jesus indeed would experience the joy of eternal life in paradise. His offering was good but inadequate.

What do you have to offer the one person in close proximity to you who has no relationship in or with Jesus Christ? Can you offer them a sure word? Can you lead them to acknowledge who God and Jesus are, what they have done and how an active relationship with them will result in both the abundant and eternal life?

Jesus intimates, I see you in paradise. May this be your testimony as you lead others to testify the same.

Be a Witness!

Day 31 - Wednesday, April 10, 2019

I See You – Mother

Scripture:

When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, “Woman, behold your son!” Then He said to the disciple, “Behold your mother!” And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.

(John 19:26-27 - NKJV)

Devotional Reading

It is doubtful that there is any more impactful witness than how you care for your family and the ones you love. Jesus’ demonstration on the cross reminds us that it is never too late to be loving and caring.

Both his mother and the disciple had a relationship with Jesus but they both were in need of deliverance. His mother needed to be delivered from the anxiety of being a widow with no one to support her in old age. The disciple had the need to be delivered from the fear of being a follower of Jesus who might face the same destiny as Jesus.

I see you mother. Your needs will be met. Remain faithful. My disciple will take care of you and you can live worry-free. You are now his mother as where I am going, I won’t need a mother. You will live in his house and he will be your son.

What a legacy. What love. What a witness to whom Jesus was and is that he would stop dying long enough to give a final gift to his mother.

Be a Witness!

Day 32 – Thursday, April 11, 2019

I See You – Self

Scripture:

After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, “I thirst!”

(John 19:28 - NKJV)

Devotional Reading

Make a note to yourself that says, “I am human”. You may be saved, sanctified and filled---but you’re still human. To be sure, you are dedicated, devoted and a righteous disciple of Jesus Christ—but you’re still human. You may be the epitome of humility---but you’re still human.

While on the cross, Jesus saw himself as he was---fully divine yet fully human. In his spirit, Jesus knew that he was destined to die and then be resurrected and he proclaimed it publicly. In his humanity, Jesus revealed a personal moment whereby he could not help but broadcast his humanity to all who could see and hear him--I am thirsty.

When you are able to show your humanity to those you aspire to witness to, what you are really doing is demonstrating that you are no different than they are. Jesus was the Savior but he was thirsty. Jesus was a healer but he was thirsty. Jesus was a prophet but he was thirsty.

Our thirst in tense moments when drink cannot satisfy provides for the humility needed to that others can see past our need to hear what they need to hear and see what they need to see. Even when thirsty...see yourself as you are and..... Be a Witness!

Day 33 – Friday, April 12, 2019

I See You – Father

Scripture:

And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, “Father, ‘into Your hands I commit My spirit.’ ” Having said this, He breathed His last.

(Luke 23:46 - NKJV)

Devotional Reading

What will be your final word to a dying world? Will you speak on all of your accomplishments and awards? Will you comment about your financial wealthy or your fame? Will you give bitter and resentful utterances that betray your faith and practice? Will you just be silent and say nothing at all?

As Jesus died on the cross, he came to the point where it seemed nothing was left. His body, beaten, battered and bruised was gone. His devoted disciples were gone. The one person who could have saved his life, washed his hand clean and disappeared from the scene.

Nonetheless, Jesus had something left. One thing that is---his witness in the words, “*Father, ‘into Your hands I commit My spirit.’*”. That’s it. In his final moment, Jesus sees his Father and commits what he has left---his spirit---unto his Father.

If you can leave behind no wealth, fame or materials goods, leave a legacy that will last for an eternity. Let all know that you see the Father, the Father sees you and your spirit is n God’s hand.

Be a Witness!

Day 34 – Saturday, April 13, 2019

Week Five: Day 28 - Saturday, April 6, 2019

My Weekly Prayer Journal

Today, my prayer for others is:

Today, my prayer for family is:

Today, my prayer for my church is:

Today, my prayer for my community is:

Today, my prayer for myself is: