

Beyond Belief: Spending One Day With Jesus ~ Session 5

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Frank Laubach's *Game with Minutes*

- He learned how to walk moment by moment with Jesus.
- He learned how to redirect his mind towards God once a _____.
- He learned he could have a habit of doing that.

The secret of the _____ life is God-with-us. God-with-us is life without _____.*

- The Great With-You Passages in the Bible: Genesis 28:15, Deuteronomy 31:6; Deuteronomy 31:8, Psalm 23, Isaiah 41:10, Isaiah 43:2, Zephaniah 3:17, Matthew 28:19-20, John 14:16, Romans 8:38-39, Hebrews 13:5-6, Revelation 21:1-27

If God is going to be with us, our lives will be extremely different. Do we really want it to be different?

We accept the presence of God and invite Him into our lives; we say, "We want You to be present in everything we do." (St. Patrick's Prayer).

PRELIMINARIES

Faith in Jesus' Gospel of the availability of Heaven's rule now. We have to have heard the message! If the only message we've heard is the other gospels, then we'll not have the faith for living one day with Jesus.

Desire. The Spirit is a kind of being that wants to be invited does not intrude, does not push itself. Do you really want to experience extraordinary days in the presence of Jesus? ¹

Decision. You will not drift into a life of _____ with Jesus.

THE PLAN

The Day Begins...at Sundown

- The _____ day begins in the evening, at sundown.
- Electric lights are significant for our practice of spirituality. They disturb the natural units of time. We have a deep biological connection to light and darkness.
- In darkness we gather, recollect, praise, dream, confess, rest.
- Resolve household conflicts as appropriate.

Rest in Faith

- Rest is an act of _____. That's especially true today. We must make sure that we get rest.
 - Tiredness is a spiritual problem, not because it is a sin, but because being tired creates difficulties for your spiritual life, robbing you of the energy needed to pursue God.*
- Decide that you'll meet with God first thing when you awake. Go over in your mind what you'll do with God when you awake.
- If you approach the evening in that way, then you'll awaken in a _____ mood to God, which is crucial for walking through the day with God.



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Arise with Praise to God

- That is the natural way to rise, and it's crucial for your day.
- You may need to practice other disciplines.
- Fill our ____ with good things; use those good words to pour forth praise and thanks to God.

If you can, kneel to pray. Consider the difference it might make to kneel.

- Give the ____ to God. Give everything you are concerned about to Him.
- Confess that you can't manage your day, confess your dependence upon Him.
- Ask Him to remove all ____ and fill you with His ____ for your life and all that enters it.
 - Do you love your life?
 - Does the love of God come through you to everything you deal with in your life?
 - This is how you'll carry Christ through the day.
 - Call out specific concerns / leave them before the Lord.
- Prayer: not the same thing as ____!
 - Address God and tell him what you're hoping for. Watch how that works throughout the day.
 - Nothing happens, keep on praying. Why do that? You don't have anything better to do! Pray and then watch for the hand of God.

Seek God's Perspective

Settle your mind into the God's-eye ____ of the ____ and what's transpiring around you.

- Psalm 33:13-22 – A description of how the world looks to God.
- ____ our mind. Bring something into our mind each minute.
- Every time Dallas changed focus, he took a very brief moment to say, "Father, I receive you." "Guide me in the next moment."
- You'll have God constantly before you.
- Invite Jesus into each new situation and relationship as you move throughout the day.
- The whole world will be transformed! The effect is so astonishing! Experiment with that.

Bless Others

Start to will the peace and joy that you are _____ to pass from you like living water to those you are engaged with. John 7:38

Study the gospel and see how it works. Jesus sent out the disciples with instructions. Matthew 10:12-13

You have the power to speak the _____ of God into the lives of other people if you are living in that Presence yourself.

The peace and joy which you're experiencing can pass from you.



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Refocus on God

Every 2-3 hours, take ten minutes to lift a fully _____ heart and mind to God in thanksgiving and petition.

- You can find this time, it's there in your day, you can find it.
- This is not the same as solitude, don't confuse that.
- Don't berate yourself for _____; thank Jesus for being a good friend and resume the course of your activities.
 - Don't fuss over your failures; He doesn't. You have better things to do!

Conclude with Grace-Drenched Reflection

- Take 15 minutes to review the day.
- Give thanks for the successes
- Try to understand any failures and why they occurred.
- Ask Jesus for guidance in continuing the project.
- Do this in late afternoon to separate this reviewing part from your preparation for the next day.

A FEW CLOSING COMMENTS...

God isn't just for ____! He'd have a place in our life even if we'd never sinned.

The kingdom of God is righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. Romans 14:17

This is for ordinary days, not retreat days. Days of special devotion should be handled differently.

If you will do this, you will experience a tremendous progress toward where you want to be for Christ.

All of the good things that Jesus offers up, and that Paul prays for, are common ordinary realities in the lives of those who walk with Christ.

Closing Scripture: Colossians 1:9-12

Closing Prayer:

"Dear Heavenly Father, we give these hours that we have spent together to You for the profiting of our souls. Won't you please in your power and wisdom give each individual in this room what they need to love you in the fullness of their being...in Jesus' name we pray, Amen."

REFERENCE and CONTINUED STUDY:

See *Life Without Lack* by Dr. Dallas Willard, published 2018. Chapter 8 specifically gives further guidance for experiencing a day with Jesus.

