

Day 1

Dan Self - WCC

Read

"Do not withhold your mercy from me, Lord;
may your love and faithfulness always protect me.
For troubles without number surround me;
my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see.
They are more than the hairs of my head,
and my heart fails within me.
Be pleased to save me, Lord;
come quickly, Lord, to help me."

Think

- Have you ever considered that righteous people in the Bible cry out to God in protest of the evil in their world?
- What is happening in your world that you know is not God's will? Divorce, death, poverty, depression- think hard.
- Do you believe that God is saddened by these things, too?

Reflect

God is the giver of all good things, and he wants good things for his children. I find such comfort in Psalms like these that *protest* the evil in the world. Sometimes we just accept evil and hardship as a part of life, but there is a distinct pattern of righteous people in the Bible crying out to God- "God, do something about this!" It's scary to think about protesting something happening in our world to God, but what if our reaction to evil- by protesting it in prayer to God- unites us with the heart of our good God who is saddened and disgusted by the evil and hardship in the world?

Pray

God, you alone are good, and from you all good things flow. I am living in a world that is far from good, and I see this lack of goodness everywhere (be specific, here). I refuse to accept that this is what you want for me or for your world, because the truth I read about in your Word paints a different picture of you. So God, I ask and plead and pray that you would conquer the evil in my life. Repair relationships, heal sickness, defeat the enemy. You are the primary source of goodness in my life and in this world, and I ask that you draw me closer to you and align my thoughts with yours.

Day 2

Marty Miranda - BCC

Read

Psalm 16:7-11 I will bless the Lord who guides me; even at night my heart instructs me. I know the Lord is always with me. I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me. No wonder my heart is glad, and I rejoice. My body rests in safety. For you will not leave my soul among the dead or allow your holy one to rot in the grave. You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of your presence and the pleasures of living with you forever.

Think

- 1. What do you find yourself thinking about today? Is anything causing you distress or anxiety? Write it down.**
- 2. What part of Psalm 16 encouraged you today? Did anything stand out to you or speak into your circumstances? Write it down.**

Reflect

How will you put yourself in a place to hear the voice of God in the midst of your routine this week?

Pray

God, thank you that you are always with me and that you are right beside me in my anxiety and unrest. Show me the way of life this week so I can experience the joy of being with you.

Day 3

Dan Self - WCC

Read

Matthew 28:16-20 (The Great Commission)

"Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'"

Think

- Jesus asks his disciples to do something huge; what is the basis for Him asking them to do this? Is this command based on *their* power/knowledge/ability or on *his* power and authority?
- What does it mean to make a disciple? Is it being nice to someone? Is it doing good things for someone when they don't ask you to? Or is it more than that?
- Where are you at in your journey to "make disciples"? What can you do to start, if you haven't already?

Reflect

I was reading this command that Jesus gives after his resurrection (sort of like us, right now, a few days after Easter), and I was struck by how often I misinterpret what Jesus is truly asking us to do. I was struck by the fact that there is a *massive* difference between "doing good" and "making disciples". Doing good is a good thing, don't get me wrong, but there is nothing distinctly Christian about simply being a good person. Making disciples is more costly, because it requires us to call people into a different way of living, in which their lives are completely reordered around Jesus. I can easily remember the last time I did "good", and I'm sure it's easy for you to remember, too. But when was the last time you truly lived out what Jesus is calling us to in the Great Commission? Maybe our next step is truly talking to someone about Jesus and showing them what it's like to obey his commands.

Pray

Lord, we hear and understand what you are calling us to. We repent from watering down your command to make disciples into something like simply being a "good person". We want to be active participants in your disciple-making mission, and we thank you that it's according to *your* power that we are equipped to do that. Thank you for saving us not just *from* something but *to* something, and thank you for trusting us with the mission of disciple making.

Day 4

Chrissy Davis- HCC

Read

1 Peter 1:6-7 In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith- more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

What is God wanting to teach you about yourself? What is God wanting to teach you about himself? What is God asking of you in this season?

Think

God doesn't waste our wounds. Though we may be suffering and grieving in this time, God wants to use it to do something in our lives. God is in the business of redeeming things, restoring things and healing things. God wants to use this time with you to redeem dreams and hopes you have. God wants to use this time to redeem people to himself. God wants to teach you about his plans and purposes. God wants to teach you what true satisfaction looks like. God wants to heal relationships. God wants to make our hearts whole through relationship with him.

Reflect

Spend time praying and journaling about what good God has for you in this season.

Pray

God thank you for using all seasons of our life for good. Please help me to open my heart up to you for transformation and healing. I want to be more like Jesus. Amen.

Day 5

Dayne Scanlon - WCC

Read

Proverbs 16:2-3

All a person's ways seem pure to them,
but motives are weighed by the Lord.
Commit to the Lord whatever you do,
and he will establish your plans.

Think

- What are your ways? How might they differ from God's ways for you in this season?
- What does it mean to commit your plans to the Lord?
- How do you need to trust God with the unknown in this season?

Reflect

We've all heard it said a thousand times, but it remains true, that we are living in uncertain times. Often in times of uncertainty we tend to lean on our own strength and work things out the way we think they should work out. What if today we just committed our days to God and let Him work out what we do. What would it look like today for you to commit WHATEVER you do to Him?

Pray

God, I trust that even in this season you are good.

I trust that when I'm out of control, you are not. Thank you for protecting me, for loving me, and for knowing what's best for me.

I pray that you would show me your plans for me today, and that you would give me the courage to walk in those plans today!

AMEN.