

Devotions – May 10-16, 2020

By Sherri Makowski

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Sunday, May 10, 2020

Text: Proverbs 1:8

Listen my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching.

On this Mother's Day I look back on all that I have learned from the faithful people in my life. The two people that truly stand out in my daily thoughts are my mom, Connie, and my maternal grandmother, Edna. My grandma passed away when I was in my early 20's. She was such a godly woman and taught me so much in the short time that we had together. My mom and I have always been close and I've learned so much from her. I truly appreciate her love, guidance, and friendship. We've been there for each other through thick and thin. On this Mother's Day I want to say thank you to my mother and grandmother for always trying their best to show me the godly way. Bless you both, one in heaven, and one on earth.

Prayer Thought: *Please pray for all mothers and grandmothers and allow them to have strength and wisdom on this special day and always.*



Monday, May 11, 2020

Text: Matthew 18:4

Whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

A few months back our nine-year old granddaughter, Genevieve, was visiting us from Saint Paul, Minnesota. When she stays with us, she looks forward to attending church with us. She follows along in the bulletin and hymnal and especially loves to sing. During this particular visit, she was so interested in learning more about God. She wanted to learn the Lord's Prayer and the Apostles' Creed and what they mean. So, I asked our pastor, Rev. Steve Gauger, for a copy of Luther's Small Catechism. What a wonderful time we had reading and learning together. She as a child in faith and me with a child-like faith. What wonderful memories we made that day and beyond.

Prayer Thought: *Please pray for all children, of all ages, that they may open their eyes to all there is to see and learn in these trying times and always.*



Tuesday, May 12, 2020

Text: Luke 6:38

Give, and it will be given to you.

It is hard for me to write on this day as it was my stepfather's birthday. Rob would have celebrated his 75th birthday; but he passed away suddenly on March 27th of a heart attack. My family still grieves our loss every day because it is so fresh, so unbelievable, and so hard. When I read this text, I not only think of giving monetary gifts; but, of giving our loved ones over to God. Whether we give them in life or in death, God watches over them for us. Since Rob has passed, I look at things in a different light, through opened eyes. I look at all the great memories we made in the 45 years he was part of my life. He taught me so many things in his quiet, loving way. I feel so blessed to have had him as my stepfather and I feel his presence daily. He was truly a wonderful man and for that I am thankful.

Prayer Thought: *Please pray for those that have recently lost loved ones that they find peace in great memories.*



Wednesday, May 13, 2020

Text: Matthew 22:21

“Give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's.”

When I read this text, I always seem to think of material things. I'm not a real materialistic person. But I suppose when I was a teenager I was more into material things. As an adult, I realize more and more each day that there sure is more to life than material things. Now don't get me wrong, I enjoy a new thing every once in a while just like the next person. But I don't worship material things. I try real hard to worship my loving God with all my heart and soul. Do I fail sometimes? Absolutely!! I am human after all. But I know when I fail, I can count on God to take me back and allow me to realize that he never left me. Oh, what a wonderful feeling that is.

Prayer Thought: *Please pray for people struggling to accept God as their savior and not material things that come along the way to distract them.*



Thursday, May 14, 2020

Text: Job 23:10

He knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold.

This text can be hard sometimes. When I read it I like to think I would come forth as gold at all times. But I am human and know that many times I am probably silver, bronze, or dirt. We are all tested in life and how we react can be different depending on the day, month, year, etc. I think what matters most is that God knows what's in our hearts. We all may stumble at times; but if we truly repent and allow God to help and guide us, we'll definitely come forth as Gold...Pure Gold!!

Prayer Thought: *Please pray for people struggling with depression, mental illness, and addiction.*



Friday, May 15, 2020

Text: Jude 1:21

Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.

When I read this text, I think of waiting. I think of all of us waiting during these hard, uncertain times. All of us waiting and wondering when the time will come when we can move past this social distancing. Now, I change my thoughts to some other type of waiting, waiting for death. I think of someone that knows their time on earth is coming to an end. I think of what that person is feeling. Is that person ready to die? Has that person run a good race? Been a good and faithful servant? Now I turn my thoughts back to all of us waiting, in good times and in bad, knowing each one of us will eventually come to our ending time on this earth. We shouldn't be afraid; we should live everyday knowing that Jesus Christ will bring us to eternal life. So, go out there and live each and every day to the fullest and remember to share the good news!!

Prayer Thought: *Please pray for those that don't know Jesus and help them to find his comfort.*



Saturday, May 16, 2020

Text: Psalm 34:19

The righteous person may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all.

This psalm makes me happy. Just knowing that when I am troubled, God is with me and is right there to help me. Throughout my life I have suffered from depression. I have learned it is possibly genetic. Members of my family on both my mother and father's side have had bouts of depression. One counselor in my life explained depression/addiction to me in a way that a lot of people can understand. She explained it like it's a hole in your heart and people try to fill the hole with different things. For example: food, alcohol, drugs, sex, etc. But the shape/hole can only be filled with God and his never-ending love. Many people don't like to talk about depression. They may feel embarrassed, weak, scared, or even afraid. As I get older, I've learned I can comfort others that suffer just by listening and by letting them know that I too have struggled with depression. I tell people to not be afraid to get professional help. If one person doesn't help, then keep trying. Don't be ashamed if you have to take medicine. Remember if you had cancer you would take medicine. I truly believe this is no different. I'm not afraid to share with people what I have overcome and still work hard every day at overcoming. I am a child of God and a never-ending work in progress.

Prayer Thought: *Please pray for those that suffer in silence, may they come to know that there is always help.*

