

Called Me Higher

A devotional using the song 'Called me Higher' by All Sons and Daughters

Part One: 'My soul is waiting on the Lord' Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD.

Lord, hear my cry!

May your ears be attentive
to my cry for mercy!

If you, O LORD, keep account of sins
Lord who can stand?

But with you there is forgiveness
And so you are revered.

I wait for the Lord,

My soul waits

And I hope for His word.

My soul looks for the Lord

More than sentinels for daybreak.

More than sentinels for daybreak,

Let Israel hope in the Lord.

For with the Lord there is mercy.

With him there is plenteous redemption,

And he will redeem Israel

From all its sins.

Reflection

Does it ever seem as though God is silent? Sometimes I wish I could hear God speak to me, like Moses in the burning bush or Samuel in the temple. There are prayers that go seemingly unanswered, or a sense of being lost without a direction in life. It feels as though I am sitting in the dark, waiting for God to move.

Think about the soldiers mentioned in the psalm, the sentinels waited all night for their shift to end. I'm sure at times they thought that the sun would never rise, yet it always did.

Sometimes it can seem as though God will never come through on a situation and we will be in the dark forever; but just as we can be sure that the sun always rises, we can be sure that God is always with us, we are never alone.



“Remember that you are never alone, Christ is with you on your journey every day of your lives! He has called you and chosen you to live in the freedom of the children of God. Turn to him in prayer and in love. Ask him to grant you the courage and strength to live in this freedom always. Walk with him who is “the Way, the Truth and the Life”!” (Pope Saint John Paul II)

Part Two: “A clean heart create for me, O God’

Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, God, in accord with your merciful love;
In your abundant compassion blot out my transgressions.
Thoroughly wash away my guilt;
And from my sins cleanse me.
For I know my transgressions;
My sin is always before me...
Behold you desire true sincerity;
And secretly you teach me wisdom.
Cleanse me with hyssop that I may be pure;
Wash me and I will be whiter than snow.
You will let me hear gladness and joy;
The bones that you have crushed will rejoice.

Turn away your face from my sins;
Blot out all my iniquities.
A clean heart create for me O God;
Renew within me a steadfast spirit.
Do not drive me from before your face,
Nor take me from your holy spirit.
Restore to me the gladness of your salvation,
Uphold me with a willing spirit.

Reflection

It's hard to break a habit and learn new behaviours but God doesn't want us to stay in patterns of sin, He wants us to be the best version of ourselves. Many of us know that change is hard; this is something that the saints know all too well. However, even though it's difficult we hear from the psalmist that allowing God to change, cleanse and heal with bring us joy. Some of the greatest saints were sinners who allowed God to transform their lives; and we can do the same too! God calls us all to be saints, to let our walls down, to step out of our comfort zones and begin to journey towards Heaven.

“Young people of every continent, do not be afraid to be the saints of the new millennium! Be contemplative, love prayer; be coherent with your faith and generous in the service of your brothers and sisters, be active members of the Church and builders of peace. To succeed in this demanding project of life, continue to listen to His Word, draw strength



from the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist and Penance. The Lord wants you to be intrepid apostles of his Gospel and builders of a new humanity.” (Pope Saint John Paul II)

Part Three: I will go where you lead me

Psalm 33

Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous;
it is fitting for the upright to praise him.

Praise the LORD with the harp;
make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.

Sing to him a new song;
play skilfully, and shout for joy.

For the word of the LORD is right and true;
he is faithful in all he does.

The LORD loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of his unfailing love.

The LORD foils the plans of the nations;
he thwarts the purposes of the peoples.
But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever,
the purposes of his heart through all generations.

Reflection

I'm sure I can't be alone in being a bit stubborn, sometimes I don't want to cooperate with the plan that God has for me. However whenever God 'thwarts' my plans I know that His are so much greater!

We can delight in the plans of the Lord! We can delight that He is calling us to be Saints! We can delight that He has a unique plan for each and every one of us! God calls us to share this joy with others, and invite them on this journey too.

“To the whole Church is addressed Christ's command: ‘Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation’ (Mk 16:15). The whole Church, therefore, is missionary and evangelizing; she lives constantly in a state of mission. To be Christians means to be missionaries, to be apostles. It is not enough to discover Christ - you must bring Him to others!” (Pope Saint John Paul II)

