

Daily Reflection on Scripture
Week of March 12
Finding Wisdom in the Wilderness
A Time of Challenge



Each day slowly read the scripture a couple of times. Close your eyes and be with it for a moment in silence. How did it speak to you?

Sunday, March 12:

John 16:33b Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.

Sacred Pause: What are you struggling with? Instead of focusing on the outward situation look inside and ask God to help you see what is unsettled in you.

Monday, March 13

Matthew 23:26 First wash the inside of the cup and the dish, and then the outside will become clean, too.

Sacred Pause: When you are able to see and name what is going on inside of you, then you are able to see others and situations with less judgement.

Tuesday, March 14

II Corinthians 4:8-10 We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed. Through suffering, our bodies continue to share in the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus may also be seen in our bodies.

Sacred Pause: Orientation, disorientation, new orientation describe the cycle of life. There are no shortcuts to new orientation. Stay with the struggle.

Wednesday, March 15

Matthew 15:18a ...the words you speak come from the heart...

Sacred Pause: How are you experiencing God today? What has made you feel most alive this morning? To whom have you spoken words of love?

Thursday, March 16

Matthew 6:6 Here's what I want you to do: Find a quiet, secluded place so you won't be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense God's grace.

Sacred Pause: Imagine yourself in God's presence. More than just imagining, this is where you are. As you leave this moment God is already in the next.

Friday, March 17

Psalm 139:23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my anxious thoughts; and see if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way.

Sacred Pause: Have you been open to God's presence? When have you felt most close to God today? When were you most resistant to God's presence?

Saturday, March 18

Deuteronomy 31:8 Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD will personally go ahead of you. He will be with you; he will neither fail you nor abandon you.

Sacred Pause: God is before me, behind me, beside me, above me, beneath me and inside of me. There is nowhere I can go without God already being there.