Monday, 21 March 2011 Psalm 65:1-3

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. A Song. Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed. (2) O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come. (3) When iniquities prevail against me, you atone for our transgressions.

It is true, Jesus saves, Jesus saves, I have heard the joyful sound, Jesus saves, Jesus saves. To be gathered into Your kingdom, to be adopted into Your family, to be appointed as one of Your Ambassadors, to have Your righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit that comes with life in the Kingdom. I have heard the joyful sound, Jesus saves, Jesus saves.

Tuesday, 22 March 2011 Psalm 65:4

Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, to dwell in your courts! We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of your temple!

Thank You, praise You, bless Your Holy Name for You have pulled me out of the mire and stench of my sin. You have washed me whiter than snow and robed me in the garments of a prince of the Kingdom of God. I am a child of the King through Your righteousness; I am filled with the power of the Holy Spirit as a guarantee of my status; I am led by Him daily in the work that You prepared for me from before the beginning of the world. I am blessed beyond measure and description. Thank You, praise You, Lord.

Wednesday, 23 March 2011 Psalm 65:5-8

By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness, O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas; the one who by his strength established the mountains, being girded with might; who stills the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples, so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth are in awe at your signs. You make the going out of the morning and the evening to shout for joy.

All creation cries out in praise and joy acknowledging Your mighty works and following the way set forth by you in your word. For it was by Your word that all was formed and it is by Your word that all is sustained. It is Your word that governs the uprising of the waves and their calming after a storm; it is Your word that brings life to the earth each Spring and quiets it for Winter's rest in a blaze of Autumn's color.

Thursday, 24 March 2011 Psalm 65:9-13

You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide their grain, for so you have prepared it. You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth. You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with abundance. The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

Your grace pours as a cornucopia over all the lands as it brings beauty and bounty for all to enjoy. Why is it that we complain of the rains yet do not see Your gentle hand in nourishing life and cleansing dirt and dust from Your handiwork? How can we not hear the joy of the hills and valleys as they sing of the wonders of Your creation yet be so sensitive to the slightest irritation in our lives? Why do we not treasure the perfection of the tomatoes we received from our garden this year, but focus on the blight that reduced the crop? Your creatures are quick to complain and slow to appreciate. Forgive Your people, Lord, forgive me.

Friday, 25 March 2011 Hebrews 12:3-11

Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives." It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it uields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

> Lord, I need clarity in this matter of a difficult relationship. My brother was correct this morning in asking me how You are using this trial to refine me, and my answer was trite and a restatement of platitudes. Lead me into an understanding, a vision of Your

purpose in this, show me the next step and give me the willingness to submit to Your leading.

Saturday, 26 March 2011 Psalm 66:1-4

Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise! Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you. All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name." Selah

Lord, this morning I am grateful and awed by the miracle of fire as it reveals Your love for Your creation. The utility of the storage of energy from the sun stored in the logs that are burning in my stove and warming my home. The complex interworkings of light, water, chemicals, and warmth to create a way of storing energy in a convenient and transportable form so that it can be released when I need it. Why do I never think to praise and thank You as I put a match to the fire that was laid the night before? Why do I never think to praise You for the match and the paper that ignites my morning fire? Or for the beautifully engineered stove that contains the fire and smoke as it releases the heat? Or for the comfortable chair that I am sitting in as I write this? Or the computer with which I am using to write? Or?????

All the work of Your hands and the result of Your spoken word, "Let there be ..." and there was!

Lord's Day, 27 March 2011 Psalm 119:117

Hold me up, that I may be safe and have regard for your statutes continuallu!

There is safety within Your Law. As I order my life in accordance to Your Word, I am in a secure place. Life works! And You have enabled me to live in a state of grace, to live within Your Law and in obedience to Your Word. Praise You, most gracious Lord and Master.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Psalms



March 21 – 27, 2011

Voices Together is extracted from my daily meditations and is shared in the hope that others will be encouraged to turn to the Psalms as a rich source of guidance for prayer and meditation. This is also published daily on the website of the Fellowship of Ailbe, www.ailbe.org; along with material by other writers to encourage and assist in our walks as disciples of Jesus Christ.

These messages can also be received as daily Emails by sending a request to:

John Nunnikhoven voices@ailbe.org www.ailbe.org