Monday, 8 July 2013

Psalm 50:16-21

But to the wicked God says: "What right have you to recite my statutes or take my covenant on your lips? For you hate discipline, and you cast my words behind you. If you see a thief, you are pleased with him, and you keep company with adulterers. "You give your mouth free rein for evil, and your tongue frames deceit. (You sit and speak against your brother; you slander your own mother's son. These things you have done, and I have been silent; you thought that I was one like yourself. But now I rebuke you and lay the charge before you.

Lord, I lift up many of those I minister to who do not get the connection between obedience and blessing. They cry out to You in their distress while insisting on continuing to live according to their own desires and then curse You because You do not answer their requests. They need to submit to You, listen and heed the guidance of the Holy Spirit, become willing to obey in <u>all</u> things and then You will answer.

Tuesday, 9 July 2013

Psalm 50:22-23

"Mark this, then, you who forget God, lest I tear you apart, and there be none to deliver! The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies me; to one who orders his way rightly I will show the salvation of God!"

> Lord, we laid hands on and prayed for a man last night who feels You have deserted him, You are not answering his demands for justice from the system, that You are allowing those arrayed against him to continue to block his cries for redress. Lord, I pray for this person that the eyes of his heart will be opened to see that Your promises are yea and amen. I pray that he will turn from his demands for release to seeking understanding and acceptance of Your purpose for his life. Bless him, Lord.

1 John 1:8-9

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Lord, why this compulsion to embellish my stories. I know I claim to make them more interesting to my audience but You and I know that is a lie too. My embellishments are always based on a compulsion to build me up in the estimation of my audience. Heal me, Lord, change my heart.

Thursday, 11 July 2013 Psalm 51:1-2

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

> Thank You, LORD, God Almighty, for Your mercy endures forever. Your plan, in place forever and ever, was to cleanse me and bring me to Yourself through the sacrifice of Your Son, Your only Son; to pay the penalty brought on by my sin so that I can appear before You, brought into Your holy presence as one totally acceptable to You. Praise You, LORD GOD Almighty.

Friday, 12 July 2013 Psalm 51:3-4

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.

> Your righteousness—the perfect filter, the flawless lens through which all my actions and thoughts must be judged. I can argue, I can apply my skills of sophistry, I can search out a boat bound for Tarshish but I cannot avoid the fact that I have sinned against You and against You alone.

Saturday, 13 July 2013 Psalm 51:5-6

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

> Lord, it is so difficult to break through the thick skin and scales of the old man, but You heal from the inside out, You transform the heart, mind and soul to conform to Your will and so break through that hide of rebellion. Praise You, my Lord and my Master.

Lord's Day, 14 July 2013 *Psalm 119:2-3*

Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!

> Lord, I need to seek You with my whole heart—not halfheartedly but whole heartedly, actively and intentionally pursuing You and Your will. I need to apply that will to my life in all aspects so that I may do no wrong for if I am in Your will, I cannot be in sin. The two do not coexist. I will be walking in Your ways. Therefore the beginning is to seek You with all my heart.

VOICES COGECHER

Daily Meditations from the Psalms

July 8-14, 2013

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.

It is 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.

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