

Devotion for Monday, April 27, 2020

"God, read my heart like an open book..." by Vicar Brian Bocian

Nothing fancy today. No extra bells and whistles. Today is a day of just laying bear my heart before the Lord (and all of you) in a time of prayer...

Starting out the day (Monday, my weekly day off) I had high hopes for the day. I had a very lengthy list of things I hoped to get



accomplished today before my SMP class this evening. On my list were things I wanted to check off, chores, projects, but also things I was hoping would come to fruition. I had big plans for a video devotion to share with you all. Yet, here I am at the close of the day, I have no time left, I'm sore, sunburned, tired, and have a larger list than I started, with many things not checked off and no time left to do them until next week now.

What do you do when you struggle for the Words to pray? Tonight, I turn to the Psalms. Many of you may be familiar with Psalm 139:14 "I praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made", but just a few verses later in that same Psalm (verse 23-24) it says "Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!"

Why would the Psalmist ask an all-knowing/all-seeing God to take a look in his heart? "see if there be an grievous way in me"

"Grievous" - wrong, serious, wicked, off... Is there anything in my heart this evening Lord that if I continue following that thought, that emotion, that feeling, that passion, it will lead me astray? Lord you know me better than I know myself! Look with your all-seeing eye, and search me. Then reveal that to me, so that I may follow YOUR lead, not mine, a way to life abundant, life everlasting. Only you can lead me to this kind of life Lord. Not me.

Holy Spirit help create a desire within my heart this night that I can make this prayer my own, that I would mean it, and pray it fervently, and that I would accept however you answer me Lord, that in following and trusting you, I may obtain that which Christ has already won for me and desires for me - life abundant. Life everlasting. Not after I die, but right now O Lord, this night. That I may awake in the morning, where your mercies are new every day, and seek you sooner tomorrow than I did today.

I pray this in Jesus name,

Amen.