

Quiet Reflection + Second Saturday, May 11, 2019

Give ear to me and come to me; hear me, that your soul may live Isaiah 55:3a • In your light we see light. Psalm 36:9b



More Than We Ask or Imagine

More Than We Ask or Imagine | These questions are meant to help you dialog with the Lord, sharing heart-to-heart. Choose the ones that seem most significant for your life at this time. Before you begin, ask the Lord to quiet your heart and give you freedom in sharing your own thoughts with Him, even as you listen for His words of life for you.

Today's scripture: Ephes. 1:15-23 • Ephes. 3:20-21 • Rns 4:16-21

What NEW things does God want to do in and through our lives? **With Paul's measures**—beyond what we ask or imagine, we wait on the Lord for light during this reflection time, listening for what only He can tell us. Go deeper in one of the three sections, concentrating where He leads you, or ask Him to highlight things in each section that apply to you.

Our foundations in God's lavish provision: abundant grace, immeasurable love at the roots of all God does in us, progression from glory to more glory, transformation through His power at work in and through us

1. What do Paul's words mean for you? In what ways do you experience God's measureless providence and where do you need the eyes of your heart enlightened?
 2. As you've listened to the messages this morning has the Lord shown you a place of personal pain or an unresolved issue that may not be related to serving Him? Ask Him for His counsel. Invite Him to pour out His love and grace as you sit in the quiet, and to open a path of healing for you in the days ahead.

⊕ INVITING THE “NEW THING” (Chris Nelson)

1. Ask the Lord if there is a “new thing” that He has for you, e.g., a new way of serving Him, or a new work He wants to do in your life?
 2. Let Him show you the difference between your measure of faith and expectation and His measures in giving to you—beyond what you imagine.

3. Are there barriers in your life or heart that the Lord wants to clear away at this time. Let Him show you how that barrier is operating to keep you from the blessings and fruits He has for you.

4. Invite God to help you see areas in your life that you've outgrown, where He has something new for you. Ask Him to show you anything impeding His plans for you?
 - ▣ New measures? Do I hold wrong measures about myself—about what is possible for me?

 - ▣ Have I failed to take myself seriously as His loved one, or in my capacity to serve Him and be called by Him?

⊕ CHOOSING OUR MEASURES IN LIGHT OF HIS GOODNESS (Paul Currie)

1. Ask the Lord to meet you as He met Mary in the garden. Paul talked about the clarity and revelation that comes to us as Jesus opens the way—calls us by name and speaks to us as Jesus—*who knows us redeems us, and wants us to know Him.*

2. How do you relate to Paul C's message, that we step away from looking at what we're not—the measures of self that we hold, and embrace the apostle Paul's orientation? He was always abounding in faith and trust as he met all circumstances (adventures) with God, regardless of how he, Paul, saw them.

3. Paul shared how God is always pulling him into His love and light. In our journey, there are places where God has met us and we have experienced His grace in a special way (Eph. 6:24). We need to mark those times, putting *a flag* in the ground. Is there something God wants to you recognize and mark? What does it signify for you?

 MAKING ROOM FOR FRESH DIRECTION (Chris Nelson)

1. As you serve the Lord at this time, do you need “fertilizing” with faith, hope, or new measures of what God wants to do in you as His choice servant? (Is there a particular thing that has depleted your “soil” that God wants to remedy?)

2. Where are you on God’s “map”—in His timing and purposes which are meant to unfold through your faithful serving? Ask Him to show you from His perspective whatever He wants you to understand about:
 - ▣ feeling the need to reconnect with the original vision He’s given you.
 - ▣ need for renewed zeal and passion within His purposes for your life.
 - ▣ the desire to develop as an intercessor for the people and concerns God has put on your path—to experience the greater measure that Paul speaks of in his letters.
 - ▣ recognizing/interpreting His leadings or indications that He wants to move you into something new?

3. What is the condition of your heart?
 - ▣ Ask Him about your “roots”—your own inner life with Him. Are the roots drinking in His love?
 - ▣ Are the things you do to serve Him flowing from His heart of love? How would you want this flow established or strengthened?
 - ▣ How would He revive you by His Spirit, because you are His beloved one, known by name?

4. One way of seeing that we are “*walking by faith and not by sight*” is that we are standing straight up – oriented to God’s voice and will.
 - ▣ Is there anything that you are “bent” into that has compromised the way you serve the Lord?
 - ▣ Ask the Lord to show you if you are “tethered to” and thus serving something that God wants you to be free of, that your serving would be measured only by what pleases Him.

Prayer ministers will be available during Communion to pray for us in the markers – flags in the ground, put down during our reflection time. Please choose from these categories the one that is most significant for you. The prayer ministers will pray in agreement for you, and if there is something new you want the Holy Spirit to work in you, they will anoint you and pray for a fresh infilling.

1. **Invitation for the Lord to do a “new thing” in your life – something you want to make room for—to believe Him for according to His measures.**
2. **Offer to the Lord something you want to leave behind so you are free to receive the *new* with a clear heart.**
3. **Commit to the Lord an area of wounding, loss, or pain that has surfaced today, entrusting the path of healing to Him.**
4. **Ask the Lord for fresh anointing in the ministry He has called you to. Name a specific area if there is one: fresh faith? Fresh vision? Fresh love? Other?**
5. **Prayer for revelation and clarity because you feel He may have a change for you – on His “map” – in the flow of His purposes for you.**
6. **Repentance and/or grace to off-load things that distract the focus of your walk with the Lord: something you are tied to – something that fences you in when He wants to release more for you, etc.**