

PRAY EVERY DAY November 7, 2021 Resource

The Need for God from Psalm 127:1 (NRSV)

Unless the LORD builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain.
Unless the LORD guards the city,
the guard keeps watch in vain.

Morning and Evening Prayer with the Shema from Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (NRSV)

Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.

The Bishop Sharma Lewis Read the Bible in 2021 Challenge (Genesis to Revelation)

November 8: Luke 9 – 10

November 12: John 19 – 21

November 9: Luke 11 – 12

November 13: Acts 1 – 3

November 10: Luke 13 – 15

November 14: Acts 4 – 6

November 11: John 16 – 18

Small Group or personal study

Read Mark 12:38-44

- In verses 38-40 Jesus warns disciples about people who put on religious clothes and acts (like prayer) for selfish gain, attention, or to do harm to the vulnerable. What examples have you seen where people use religion or Jesus for selfish interests or to take advantage of others?
- When have you done things that seemed were for God but were truly for your own selfish reasons?
- Religious clothes and prayer are not bad in themselves. This passage shows how even good things (like prayer) can be corrupted to sinful and selfish ends. The call is not to do away with religious things, but to use everything for the glory of God. Read over the Great Commandment in Mark 12:28-34 prayerfully and pray for God's grace and power for belief and putting the Great Commandment into action.
- In verses 41-44 Jesus has disciples take note of the poor widow who put into the temple treasury everything she had to live on. Those copper coins were worth about \$2. The monetary value of the offering was small, but Jesus noted she had given the most. Jesus wanted his disciples to notice the significance of the poor widow's giving. What do you notice about the poor widow's giving and about those rich people who put in large sums?
- What do you notice about how you spend and give your own prayers, time, gifts, money, service, and resources? What would Jesus notice?
- Who do you know who gave their all in love of God and neighbor? How did they do it regularly and over time?
- What holds you back from giving all of yourself to Jesus and neighbor?

A Prayer of Charles de Foucauld

Father, I abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will. Whatever you may do, I thank you: I am ready for all, I accept all. Let only your will be done in me, and in all Your creatures—I wish no more than this, O Lord.

Into your hands I commend my soul; I offer it to you with all the love of my heart, for I love you Lord, and so need to give myself, to surrender myself into your hands, without reserve, and with boundless confidence, for you are my Father.

Spend time in silence

Prayer for others and yourself

The Lord's Prayer

Share the Love of Jesus because It's All about Relationships

How will you or how did you share the love of Jesus with neighbor today with no strings attached? Write it down and share it this week in small group for support and prayer.

God's Gift of Sleep from Psalm 127:2 (NRSV)

It is in vain that you rise up early
and go late to rest,
eating the bread of anxious toil;
for he gives sleep to his beloved.