

Sunday 26th April 2020

Father God, I thank you Lord for _____.

You are with me, and with your whole church. You are such a great Father!

I pray this morning for understanding by your Holy Spirit.

Teach me and draw me nearer to you. Amen.

Listen to a worship **song** of your choice

Read: Luke 25:13-35

What stands out to you about this passage?

Song: Trust and Obey WOW CD track 12

Or Jesus. This is you—Chris Tomlin:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wVoQWIT5EkQ&list=PLFkPScmgDRjEM1jNizrKhxLkx6hEpK3rb&index=27&t=0s>

Read: 1 Peter 1:17-23

Reflection:

Peter starts his letter to the church with an urgent call for people to recognize that the work of Christ changes their life. Here we see ourselves as people who need God—a God who is the only one able to judge, the same one who has given us our freedom and forgiveness.

Like today, Peter sees that the people are influenced by the world around them—culture and behaviors passed down and altered through the generations. The gift of God saves us from the empty, temporary nature of earthly cultures and traditions and gives us a new culture to live by. This culture stays the same throughout all generations. The cultures of the earth ebb and flow with all the changes around us—as we are seeing it happen now. The culture of Jesus Christ is marked by a purified life pouring out an unwavering love for one another.

We all struggle to juggle between what we know and how we were raised—and the way of Christ. The good news is, the price has been paid for our forgiveness and when we repent and accept that forgiveness and live in Christ, there is no need for guilt. As our life is purified, the hurt, the guilt, the fear all washes away and the outworking becomes purified. A pure love shared with each other.

Q What are some of the cultural strongholds you hold to? A simple example of this could be a negative reaction to people who wear hats inside.

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Is there any part of how you live that contradicts the life of Christ?

Our willingness to face these questions and dedicate our life to Christ each day will see the light and love of God increase in our life.

Prayer: Lord God, I give my life to you. You are the giver of life, you have loved me in every moment and all I want is to be closer to you. Continue to free me from ways of living that are contrary to you. Pour your Holy Spirit into my heart and renew my soul each day. Your Love, O Lord, is an unending spring of the most refreshing waters. When my soul feels dry, you quench my thirst. When I feel like I have all I need, I know, that your love still keeps flowing.

Read: Psalm 116

Song: Take my Life (WOW track 2)

Or I will follow—Chris Tomlin

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ohvhmGSfxI&list=PLFkPScmgDRjEM1jNizrKhxLKx6hEpK3rb&index=47&t=0s>

Lord God. You are the light in me. May I shine brightly and bring glory to Your name.

