

Space for God First and Last

PREPARATION

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has become a child of God. And everyone who loves the Father loves his children, too. And we know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us understanding so that we can know the true God. And now we live in fellowship with the true God because we live in fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ.

He is the only true God, and he is eternal life. 1 John 5:1,20

CONFESSION

But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your heart, don't cover up the truth with boasting and lying. For jealousy and selfishness are not God's kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic.

For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind. James 3:14-16

WORSHIP

The Lord is good and does what is right; he shows the proper path to those who go astray.

He leads the humble in doing right, teaching them his way. The Lord leads with unfailing love and faithfulness all who keep his covenant and obey his demands. Psalm 25:8-10

MEDITATION – Mark 9:30-37*

Leaving that region, they traveled through Galilee. Jesus didn't want anyone to know he was there, for he wanted to spend more time with his disciples and teach them. He said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of his enemies. He will be killed, but three days later he will rise from the dead." They didn't understand what he was saying, however, and they were afraid to ask him what he meant.

After they arrived at Capernaum and settled in a house, Jesus asked his disciples, "What were you discussing out on the road?" But they didn't answer, because they had been arguing about which of them was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve disciples over to him, and said, "Whoever wants to be first must take last place and be the servant of everyone else."

Then he put a little child among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, "Anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf welcomes me, and

IN SOLITUDE AND/OR COMMUNITY

Read	Slowly, several times.
Reflect	What does the text say?
Respond	How does it relate to my life?
Rest	I welcome God's healing and renewal.

anyone who welcomes me welcomes not only me but also my Father who sent me."

ANCHORING PRAYER

You are welcome in my life LORD.

REVIEW OF THE HEART

When was I prideful or envious?

When did I act with humility?

WISDOM

And from the throne came a voice that said, "Praise our God, all his servants, all who fear him, from the least to the greatest." Revelation 19:5

But not everyone welcomes the Good News, for Isaiah the prophet said, "Lord, who has believed our message?" Romans 10:16

Pride leads to disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom. Proverbs 11:2

In the same way, you who are younger must accept the authority of the elders. And all of you, dress yourselves in humility as you relate to one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." 1 Peter 5:5

TESTIMONY *What is God saying to me?*

INTERCESSION *Prayers for the Church, for others, and for me.*

BENEDICTION

Lord, my heart is not proud; my eyes are not haughty. I don't concern myself with matters too great or too awesome for me to grasp. Instead, I have calmed and quieted myself, like a weaned child who no longer cries for its mother's milk. Yes, like a weaned child is my soul within me.

O Israel, put your hope in the Lord – now and always.

-Amen-

Psalm 131:1-3

SPACE FOR GOD DAILY

Be still and quiet before God.

Seek the Holy Spirit's filling and

Speak and act from a listening heart.

Actively serve in community with others.