

Congregation in Prayer Sept 24, 2017

Paul found himself torn between living or dying. He knows that if he were to die, he would be with the Lord and found that to be very compelling. Yet, he knew that there were those who would benefit from his continuing in this life. We can learn from him at those times when we find ourselves feeling torn.

[Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:12-14,19-30; Mt 20:1-16]

The Order of Meditation and Prayer for Daily Use

(Pray and confess out loud as much of the Order of Meditation as possible)

Theme for the Week: Torn between living or dying

Invocation (Spoken while making the sign of the cross to remember your baptism)
In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Apostle's Creed

Learn by Heart Verse (Practice saying this verse word for word, out loud, throughout the day)

Luke 12:15 (ESV) And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

From the Catechism (Read together and discuss briefly)

<p>The Ninth Commandment</p> <p>You shall not covet your neighbor's house.</p> <p>The Tenth Commandment</p> <p>You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.</p>	Kindergarten +
<p>The Meaning of the Ninth Commandment</p> <p><i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.</p> <p>The Meaning of the Tenth Commandment</p> <p><i>What does this mean?</i> We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.</p>	Third Grade +

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday	Laborers in the Vineyard – Matt 20:1-16
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Monday	A Pillar of Cloud by Day and a Pillar of Fire by Night—Num.9:15-23
Tuesday	Israel Departs from Sinai—Numbers 10:11-14a, 29-36
Wednesday	The People of Israel Complain Against the Lord—Numbers 11:1-17
Thursday	The Lord Feeds His Grumbling People with Quail—Numbers 11:18-35
Friday	The Parable of the Rich Fool – Luke 12:13-21
Saturday	Looking Ahead

Daily Themes for Prayer:

Sunday: Gracious Lord, in your compassion you seek not the death of the sinner but their repentance. Cause us to see with your eyes and heart so that we may have compassion for our neighbor – to feed them when they are hungry, to clothe them when they are cold, to speak the Law in love, and to console with the Gospel.

Monday: Holy Father, as Solomon asked for wisdom, we too ask that you make us wise so that we may see the Holy Spirit at work in our community and follow where he leads and to love our neighbor as you have called us.

Tuesday: Almighty Lord, You have called your people at Our Savior to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths we have not yet trod, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us.

Wednesday: Gracious Lord Jesus, help us to abide in You and in Your Word, so that by the power of the Spirit at work in us, we may bear fruit for You – the fruit of the Spirit in our lives and a fruitful witness to those we impact through our Words of witness and our compassionate acts of service to our neighbor.

Thursday: Lord Jesus, as You spent time in this world of ours preaching, teaching and healing, so help us to spend time with the people around us bringing them hope, healing and new life in Your name. As we speak with them and as we serve them in Your name, may they come to know You and Your grace in their lives.

Friday: Forgive us, Lord, for the times that we have had good intentions about sharing the Good News with others but have failed miserably because we were more focused on ourselves and our own needs and desires. Forgive us for the times that our efforts to reach others with the Gospel have been more about us than about them.

Saturday: Lord Jesus, You came into our world, not to condemn us, but to save us. You became flesh and blood so that we could see just how much God loves us. Help us to be “flesh and blood” examples of God’s love in our neighborhoods to the people who do not yet know You that they may come to know Your love and mercy.

Lord’s Prayer

Going with God’s Blessing

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Looking Ahead (Take a look at the readings for next Sunday)

Ezek. 18:1–4, 25–32

Phil. 2:1–4 (5–13) 14–18

Matt. 21:23–27 (28–32)