

# Personal DailyWalk

By Diane Runyan

**March 16-22, 2020**



**Monday: 1 Kings 19:1-8** Do you have days like Elijah had? He was afraid for his life and ran into the desert to die. Our days may seem unbearable at times, but God provides encouragement and strength. In this case, one of God's angels provided food so that he could make it through the journey ahead. Think about some of the people around you who encourage and provide strength when things are tough. Who is someone that you can support today?

**Tuesday: Psalm 32:1-5** At its core, this psalm is about sin and confession. In order to receive God's forgiveness, we must acknowledge our failings and wrong-doings. This is a passage about how, when we are feeling weak and vulnerable, God will seek us out and bring us home to him.

Our joy at being forgiven is an appropriate one, even in the somber season of Lent. During Lent, we await Jesus' death, but we also await His resurrection. Thank God for His gift of forgiveness, given to us at the cross!

**Wednesday: Matthew 18:10-14** This is a parable to give us comfort when we need it. But it also begins with a warning for us all about how we are to treat our Christian brothers and sisters when they are feeling weak in faith. It's a story about how, when we are feeling weak and vulnerable, God will seek us out and bring us home to him. This is a spiritual truth, that we all need to hear because we have all been that lost sheep at one time or another, and perhaps you are that lost sheep today.

So this is a parable to give us comfort when we need it. If you are feeling lost today, or if you are feeling afraid, or if you know deep in your heart that you have strayed from God, then let him find you today. Call out his name, and he will hear you and he will restore you and, as you do, the whole of heaven will rejoice.

**Thursday: 2 Timothy 1:3- 7** These verses remind me of my grandparents and how they would join our family on summer evenings to have a "weiner roast." We would "fan the flames" sending oxygen between the sticks in order to make the flames burn higher as we cooked our hot dogs and toasted our marshmallows.

In Paul's letter to Timothy, the Holy Spirit came to Timothy when Paul laid his hands on him. The question is, how do we keep the fire burning? What is the fuel that is needed? If we want to keep God's flames burning bright inside of us, we'll need His word to keep it burning. Why God's word? Because when we hear God's word, the fire of faith is fueled. *So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." (Romans*

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10:17) In turn, the Spirit is the “oxygen” that gives us the boldness to share the Gospel with those around us, and power, love, and self-discipline to make it through each day. Reflect on how you can “fan the flame” in yourself by spending time in God’s word.

**Friday: Micah 7:18-20** These verses speak of God and how He never changes. He forgives us and doesn’t stay angry for long. Instead, he shows mercy and forgives us. He has claimed us in the waters of baptism, and washed our sins away. Just as God promised Jacob and Abraham, he loves us, and is faithful to us. Reflect on all the things that you have been through: What has God forgiven you for? He has given you many blessings, especially a love that claims us as His children for eternity!

**Saturday: Luke 7:1-10** From Jupiter to Venus, Romans worshipped and made sacrifices to a multitude of gods and goddesses, believing that these deities could influence their lives. Instead, this centurion believed in Jesus, and the fact that Jesus could heal his servant. The Jewish leaders felt that he deserved to have Jesus heal his servant because of the things he had done. But Jesus said to those who were following him, that his faith was great, more than any one of the Jewish people. Any faith in God is great, because faith in God cannot be measured. Just like the centurion, we have access to God’s healing power. Prayerfully consider what great things God has done and can do for you.

**Sunday: John 9:1-41** I know this is a long read, but it is a good one to reflect on where you have blinders up; not only spiritual blinders, but also blinders of preconceived notions of others in our community. Pray that God may open your eyes to His truth for all people.