

INSPIRED WORD
March 21, 2018

SHARING / SCRIPTURE

It's almost the end of our Lenten journey. Can you believe it? It went by so quickly. We started by desiring God, looking for His face, wanting to be close to His heart. We wanted to give up anything and everything that would come between us. (**Reflection** – *Goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. Psalm 23:6*) So let's look at our lives and God and all the ways he has given to us His goodness and mercy. Let's pause to thank the Lord for that, for always being with us, in each of us, all the days of our lives. I like simple definitions so one of them is believing in God's goodness no matter what. Do you believe in God's goodness? Sometimes it's hard, isn't it? But His goodness and mercy are always, always there. His goodness is complete for each of us.

(Thanksgiving and praise reports)

SCRIPTURE / EXHORTATION

All these sharings... Everybody's been using their faith the way Jesus wanted us to. In **John 14:12**: *Verily, verily, I say to you, he that believes in me and the works that I do, he shall do also; and greater works than me shall he do, because I go to the Father. We are the Lord's hands and feet. We praise and glorify His name by having the heart of the Father and the power of the Holy Spirit work through us so that others can see Him. We praise His holy and glorified name.*

(Thanksgiving and praise reports)

REVIEW

So does this remind you of what we heard last week? Remember what it was... about crossing the river? Sometimes it looks more like rapids. In that sharing, we heard about Jesus placing the stones that we step on to get to the other side. Those stones are God's goodness and His grace. In all that, there is promise too. The Lord always, always provides stepping stones. He'll never change.

PRAYER

Lord, we give you praise and worship tonight for Your loving action in each and every life. Glory to You, Lord. We join with the angels and saints, right here and now in this place. Lord, be glorified here; be glorified in our hearts; be glorified in the heavens. We love You and give You praise. Thank You, Lord.

SCRIPTURE / PRAYER

In **Jude 1**: *To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ: Mercy, peace and love be multiplied unto you... 20-25: But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith, pray in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal live. And on some, have compassion, making the distinction, and others save by pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh. Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you flawless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to God, our Savior, who alone is wise, be glory and majesty in his infinite power, both now and for ever. Amen.* O Father, we praise and exalt and magnify Your holy name. For You alone are worthy. Worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the holy risen Lamb of God. Worthy is the Lamb. We praise and exalt and magnify Your name. For You alone are the holy risen Lamb, righteous in all Your ways. We magnify and glorify and exalt Your holy name, and we just praise You in every way we can think of to praise You, for You alone are worthy. Worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lamb of God, who takes and is taking away the sins of the world. We thank You for that, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Halleluiah to the Lamb!

SHARING

That song is so powerful it brought back to me the memory from Monday. Sunday in the paper I read an article about Stephen Hawking who had died, and they made a point of publishing that he was an atheist. But Monday morning I woke up and Stephen Hawking popped into my mind. And I said a prayer for him. Sometimes people come to my mind and I'll say a prayer. And I said a prayer for him and I had a clear image that he saw the beauty of God, and that he was filled with wonder and awe. I don't know why I saw that but I have no doubt that he sees now this indescribable God.

EXHORTATION

During this Lenten season, we're trying to move closer to the heart of God and one way to do that is through Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. **(Testimony)**