



Day Eighteen

Awakening to God's Presence

What must we do to become perfect?
Follow Jesus Christ and imitate him.
That's what we promise through baptism;
following Jesus is a consequence of believing him.
Imitating Jesus is a responsibility
and a pathway to happiness.
Jesus came among us
to give us a model for life,
to show us the way to be virtuous.
He said that he was the way by his example,
and the truth by his teaching,
and the life by his death.
This is why Jesus experienced
all that we experience.
He experienced all the stages of human life:
birth, growth, suffering, death.
Each of his actions and his words
gives us something to imitate.
His life is a sure pattern for us,
and a challenge to do what he did,
to make his life a part of ours.
Whatever our disposition,
whatever our life situation,
we can always look to Jesus
and work at imitating him.
That is perfection;
that is the way to salvation.
We turn to Jesus to know and hear
his call, to follow him, to imitate him.
We need, then, to walk in his footsteps,
to live as he lived.

Living by God's Grace

Walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

Acknowledging God's Gifts

May this night's rest
strengthen my resolve
to live as Jesus lived,
to love as he loved.
Praise to you, God,
for the gift of this day,
for the opportunity and privilege
of living my faith,
of striving to be like Jesus.
When tomorrow dawns, make me alert
to whatever opportunities it will bring.
Give me the grace to be like Jesus
even in the smallest details
of my life and work.
Help me to be faithful.
I want to follow Jesus.
For this day, thank you.
Bless this night.
May tomorrow be a fresh beginning.

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