



Day Twenty-Eight

Awakening to God's Presence

Jesus Christ would have been born in vain
if he didn't renew and develop his life in us
through the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
Those gifts dispose us to listen to the Spirit.
They create a fire burning before us.
These gifts are a strong wind breaking all resistance.
They are electricity circulating through us,
making us reach beyond ourselves,
working with zeal for our holiness
and for the good of others.
Such are the Spirit's gifts at work in us.
Sevenfold are these gifts.
Fear of the Lord to be humble and desire good.
Piety to love God.
Knowledge to discern God's ways.
Courage to do whatever God asks.
Counsel to move always toward God.
Understanding to see the depths of truth.
Wisdom to conform our lives to God's will.
This Spirit transforms our lives
into union with God's own,
without destruction or humiliation,
but by pouring love into us
like a fire that changes all into itself.
So, Jesus Christ lives within us.
We can become new persons,
reproducing in ourselves
his thoughts and sentiments,
his desires, words, and deeds—
in fact, his entire life.
It remains for us to call upon the Spirit.

Living by God's Grace

Pray for the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Acknowledging God's Gifts

May this night's rest
open me to the Spirit's lead.
I want to eagerly seek God in my life,
and welcome the fire of God within me.
Thank you, Lord, for the gifts I used today.
Let them be a means of good for others,
reminding them of your presence and your love.
Remind me that my work and efforts
are truly your own.
Come, Holy Spirit, with tomorrow's dawn.
Fashion my heart through love and
teach me anew the ways of Jesus.
Enfold me in your grace;
enchant me so that I might look for no other.
I want to live the Spirit's gifts.
For this day, thank you.
Bless this night.
May tomorrow be a fresh beginning.

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