



Day Eight

Awakening to God's Presence

Living well takes commitment and
not just a casual promise.
We need a vibrant dedication to values.
Living well as Christians
takes a commitment to the mission.
This mission is clear:
we must extend the knowledge,
teaching, and love of Jesus Christ
in the hearts of all people.
Mission is a matter of the heart.
Knowledge and insight are needed,
but the lasting work, the Gospel work
of building and sustaining a culture of love
must be spread from heart to heart.
Mission will be compromised
if the mind is cultivated
at the expense of the heart.
The result would be machine-like efficiency.
Meanwhile, the heart would atrophy
and love would thereby be diminished.
We need to work in the mission together,
united with one another.
This mission is communal in nature.
If we can be one in this,
we can transform our world.
Everyone's gifts are needed for the work.
Our vocation to continue what Jesus began
is the work of each and all.
In the eyes of God and the people,
we are responsible for that mission,
individually and collectively.
This is the commitment needed for living well,
and we will have to give an accounting.

Living by God's Grace

Work together with others in advancing the mission of Jesus.

Acknowledging God's Gifts

May this night's rest
nurture within me a revitalized commitment
to all that I am as a Christian.
Accept my work of this day
as a part of the mission,
however small it may have been
and even if I did not see or sense it.
Let me continue my journey tomorrow,
confident of your presence within me, Lord.
Help me to be convinced of your guidance,
and confirmed by your grace.
Help me to recognize all those
who can assist and accompany me.
Lead me to all those for whom I can do the same.
Let us complete the work you've given us—
making your reign, the reign of God, a reality.
I want to work with others in preparing for God's reign.
For this day, thank you.
Bless this night.
May tomorrow be a fresh beginning.

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