# Space for God To whom would we go?

#### PREPARATION

And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him.  $_{\mbox{Colossians 2:6}}$ 

## CONFESSION

Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit.

So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace. Romans 8:5-7

### ADORATION and GRATITUDE

You go before me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too great for me to understand! I can never escape from your Spirit! I can never get away from your presence! Psalm 139:5-7

#### MEDITATION & CONTEMPLATION - Mark 9:38-50\*

Anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. I live because of the living Father who sent me; in the same way, anyone who feeds on me will live because of me. I am the true bread that came down from heaven. Any-

IN SOLITUDE AND/OR COMMUNITY

Read Slowly, several times.

Reflect What does the text say?

Respond How does it relate to my life?

Rest I welcome God's healing and renewal.

one who eats this bread will not die as your ancestors did (even though they ate the manna) but will live forever."

He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

Many of his disciples said, "This is very hard to understand. How can anyone accept it?"

Jesus was aware that his disciples were complaining, so he said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what will you think if you see the Son of Man ascend to heaven again? The Spirit alone gives eternal life. Human effort accomplishes nothing. And the very words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But some of you do not believe me." (For Jesus knew from the beginning which ones didn't believe, and he knew who would betray him.) Then he said, "That is why I said that people can't come to me unless the Father gives them to me."

At this point many of his disciples turned away and deserted him. Then Jesus turned to the Twelve and asked, "Are you also going to leave?"

Simon Peter replied, "Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words that give eternal life. We believe, and we know you are the Holy One of God."

ANCHORING PRAYER

"Father, Your words are spirit and life to me."

**REVIEW OF THE HEART (previous 24 hours)** 

When did I recognize that my only option was to go to God?

What biblical teaching do I find hard to accept?

#### WISDOM

*Romans 8:1* So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.

*1 John 5:9* Since we believe human testimony, surely we can believe the greater testimony that comes from God. And God has testified about his Son.

#### TESTIMONY What is God saying to me?

INTERCESSION Prayers for the Church, for others, and for me.

#### CLOSING PRAYER

And we know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us understanding so that we can know the true God. And now we live in fellowship with the true God because we live in fellowship with his Son. Jesus Christ. He is the only true God. and he is eternal life.

[Amen]

1 John 5:20-4

SPACE FOR GOD DAILY

Be still and quiet before God.

Seek the Holy Spirit's filling and

Speak and act from a listening heart.

Actively serve in community with others.

PermaneSED (Abide) Kurt D. Peters. **Bold** portions to be read in unison. \*Lectionary, Year B.. Scripture Quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2007 by Tyndale House Foundation.