Space for God Pushed to the Brink

PREPARATION

You are coming to Christ, who is the living cornerstone of God's temple. He was rejected by people, but he was chosen by God for great honor. 1 Peter 2:4

CONFESSION

He was despised and rejected a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief. We turned our backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care. Isaiah 53:3

WORSHIP

I thank you for answering my prayer and giving me victory! The stone that the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing, and it is wonderful to see. Psalm 118:21-23

MEDITATION & CONTEMPLATION - Luke 4:21-30*

Then he began to speak to them. "The Scripture you've just heard has been fulfilled this very day!"

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.

Everyone spoke well of him and was amazed by the gracious words that came from his lips.

"How can this be?" they asked. "Isn't this Joseph's son?"

Then he said, "You will undoubtedly quote me this proverb: 'Physician, heal yourself'-meaning, 'Do miracles here in your hometown like those you did in Capernaum.' But I tell you the truth, no prophet is accepted in his own hometown.

"Certainly there were many needy widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the heavens were closed for three and a half years, and a severe famine devastated the land. Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them. He was sent instead to a foreigner—a widow of Zarephath in the land of Sidon. And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, but the only one healed was Naaman, a Syrian." When they heard this, the people in the synagogue were furious. Jumping up, they mobbed him and forced him to the edge of the hill on which the town was built. They intended to push him over the cliff, but he passed right through the crowd and went on his way.

ANCHORING PRAYER

"Lord, You are the Truth."

REVIEW OF THE HEART (previous 24 hours)

When did I seek God's Kingdom first and not my own?

When did I try to live up to everyone else's expectations?

WISDOM

But not everyone welcomes the Good News, for Isaiah the prophet said, "Lord, who has believed our message?" Romans 10:16

Therefore, we never stop thanking God that when you received his message from us, you didn't think of our words as mere human ideas. You accepted what we said as the very word of God—which, of course, it is. And this word continues to work in you who believe. 1 Thessalonians 2:13

TESTIMONY What is God saying to me?

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

BENEDICTION

But the Lord stood with me and gave me strength so that I might preach the Good News in its entirety for all the Gentiles to hear.

And he rescued me from certain death. Yes, and the Lord will deliver me from every evil attack and will bring me safely into his heavenly Kingdom.

All glory to God forever and ever! Amen. 2 Timothy 4:17-18

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 C. Scripture Quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2007 by Tyndale House Foundation.