Space for God Words of Spirit and Life



PREPARATION

• In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit •

And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him.

Colossians 2:6

WORSHIP

That is why the Lord, who redeemed Abraham, says to the people of Israel,

"My people will no longer be ashamed or turn pale with fear. For when they see their many children and all the blessings I have given them, they will recognize the holiness of the Holy One of Jacob. They will stand in awe of the God of Israel. Then the wayward will gain understanding, and complainers will accept instruction.

Isaiah 29:22-24

CONFESSION

Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe.

They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God. 2 Corinthians 4:4

MEDITATION John 6:58-69*

am the true bread that came down from heaven. Anyone 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."

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.

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

YOU have the words that give eternal life.

REVIEW OF THE HEART

How were God's words "spirit and life" to me? What part of God's Word has been difficult for me to accept?

WISDOM

For we who worship by the Spirit of God are the ones who are truly circumcised. We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort,

Philippians 3:3

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

Since we believe human testimony, surely we can believe the greater testimony that comes from God. And God has testified about his Son.

1 John 5:9

TESTIMONY What is God saying today?

INTERCESSION For the Church-for others-for me.

BENEDICTION

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.

1 John 5:20

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.

• Amen •

John 6:68b-69

SPACE FOR GOD DAILY

Be still and quiet before God.

Seek the Holy Spirit's filling and guidance.

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.