

This is the first in a series of “Letters to God,” written by a dear friend who wishes to remain anonymous.

LETTERS TO GOD
June 8, 2010
Morning Prayer and Bible study

Good morning, dear Heavenly Father,

I come before you in Jesus name, late in the morning with once again, a heavy heart. I had a wonderful luncheon with a former member of our congregation. Our conversation seemed so good and uplifting and seasoned with salt! Yet, when I got home later in the day I had a message from her on the answering machine asking for my grace because of something she had said that never touched my heart as wrong, but just honest. I have not yet called her back because she has my grace, she has my love, and in my heart she was never held up for judgment. I will call her today, now that I have run it by you, so that you will be my response, dear Father God. I just don't seem to fare well in my operation down here.

Later on, during the course of the day, I was picked up for our home fellowship, and with these very godly people who believe once saved always saved, and I felt opposed. In our fellowship, we never once got to the meat of the study, which was having an obsession for the service of Your will, but instead, how good our church is at meeting each other's needs. It's true. My church is good at doing this. But, are we supposed to do it so that we can pat each other on the back in approval? I think we missed the point. But, as usual, I was the odd man out. I kept remembering something I learned from my Lord a long time ago about living a life in Your service. He said:

But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. (Mt. 6:3-4)

What was even more important was the approach to this understanding:

Beware of practicing your righteousness before the people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father in Heaven. (Mt. 6:1)

There was a lot of “trumpet sounding,” last night and it made me uncomfortable, but I didn't say anything, which in essence makes me just as culpable or even worse because I saw it and heard it yet did not stop it for fear of rejection.

Forgive me, Father. It might be this very reason you have placed me at this church, and if so, then I am failing you because of my desire to fit in.

So, my prayer this morning is that you strengthen me for the battle, because it sets me in a place that I have run away from all of my life—a place by myself. I am grateful that I now know that I'm never really alone. You are always with me!

In Jesus' name.

Amen and Amen.

(Her Bible study, continues from the booklet, Our Daily Bread)

Our Daily Bread

“Give me a Hand”

Ps. 139: 7-12 and Ps. 119:173

Let your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen your precepts.

(Ps. 119:173)

The closing statement for today's study is confirmation of my morning prayer, and also the scriptural readings, for they have confirmed my heart.

The closing statement says this:

When adversity strikes us, God is ready to strengthen us.

I can't avoid what God is showing me just to keep friends—this was not the example of my Lord.

This is a very, very hard study. The adversity is perceived in my heart, but I know it comes not from the Holy Spirit of my God. I know I won't do this in myself unless my Father gives me the strength.

So be it, my Lord.

In Jesus' name.

Amen and Amen.

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