

# WEEK FIVE

## —Sunday—

*We often say "If I only had the chance" — We do not live or die by chance — we live by opportunities given by you.*



### PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

*Opportunity-maker.* It is a joy for me to relate to this quality of yourself! All the good open doors for a knowledge of yourself — all the opportunities to teach and preach your word for others are arranged by you. Every copy of the scriptures is a marvelous opportunity for someone to know you. Oh, praise your beautiful name. How good to know you are the One who opens every door that leads to life!

*Express yourself in adoration for this quality of God. Speak it audibly or write out your praise in your own devotional journal.*

### PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT HE MEANS TO ME

Opportunity for me — you are opportunity itself for me. I attribute every project to you. If they failed it was a lack of either faith or wisdom, both I could have had from you. If the projects succeed, I want to offer every ounce of credit to you! There have been so many opportunities for me! I have had some response in teaching and preaching and writing and publishing and in it all I want to let everyone glorify you (I am so sad and sorry that my terrible pride and ignorance have hindered this), but I do wonder and worship in praise before you!

*How do you personally relate to the opportunities of God, and God who is opportunity-maker? Speak it out or write it out. It is so important that you establish your own devotional journal.*

### CONFESSION OF SIN

Dear Opportunity-maker, I want to be forgiven for every time I forced a situation and made my own opportunity — although I must confess just as freely that I have not always known the difference. Dear One, cleanse me of *all* my hidden faults.

*What personal sins do you want to confess? We must speak them to remove them. Do it! Now. There is no one else you have sinned against more than God. Tell him so!*

### SING A PRAYER TO GOD

There's a Stranger at the door,  
Let Him in;  
He has been there oft before,  
Let Him in;  
Let Him in, ere He is gone,  
Let Him in, the Holy One,  
Jesus Christ, the Father's Son,  
Let Him in.

*Open your hymn book and sing the rest of the verses — or even sing another prayer song.*

### HIS WORD

<sup>40</sup>Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened here eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. <sup>41</sup>He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called the believers and the widows and presented her to them alive. <sup>42</sup>This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup>Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.  
—Acts 9:40-43, NIV

### READ HIS WORD TO HIM

What shall I say to you about raising the dead? Wow! I'm nonplused, I am speechless, I really have no words to register my response! I do want to be one of those "believers" who saw Dorcas after her resurrection — the primary purpose was not her resurrection but to cause many to believe in your dear Son. Jesus is the great miracle — his resurrection is far more important — he was raised to die no more. Did Peter teach these eager, open-hearted people? Of course he did. This was the real power and purpose behind the raising of this dear woman. I want to hear every word he said (says). I can read Peter's epistles and receive some of the same teaching he must have given these disciples.

*Please express your response to this beautiful text. Put your expression in your own prayer diary.*

## READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

"Tabitha, get up." Such a word will one day (oh, that glad last day) be heard — every man and woman's name will be called and we shall all "get up." My Lord, are you saying to me right now, "get up," "arise you who are asleep" and I will shine upon you like the light of the bright morning sun. It does seem to me that if this were a pattern to be repeated it would have happened in at least one more "Joppa" — or Joplin — since that day. Bless the Lord, "a greater work," a truly greater work has happened. Someone has been raised from an eternal death in trespasses and sins. Raised to walk in the fresh new sunlight of your love!

*It is so important that you pause in his presence and either audibly or in written form tell him all his word means to you.*

## READ HIS WORD IN THANKSGIVING

I always look forward to this expression. Thanks seems so inadequate. (1) For your definition of death — "the body apart from the Spirit is dead" — her body has been washed and laid out on the bed — and it was to that body Peter turned and spoke. (2) For your definition of seeing — or sight — we see with our spirits — through our eyes — when the Spirit is absent so is sight. (3) For the courtesy of Peter — thoughtful, kind man — like our Lord. (4) For the circumstances of your miracle — open, public, no question of the reality. (5) To be alive twice — once alive in the old life, now alive in a new life — the same old friends and surroundings, but something beautiful has been added. (6) That Peter was "at home" or comfortable with "a tanner" (an unlikely man with whom to stay). (7) For the commonness of all the record, the common name of "Simon" — like Bill or Henry today. Thank you for this lovely, lovely account.

*Give yourself to your own expression of gratitude — write it or speak it!*

## READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

We can gather around your word with absorbed and absorbing interest: Why did Peter visit Lydda? He was on a journey for *some* reason — perhaps what he did when he got there would indicate why he came. He came to see and confirm the faith of the saints — in the process he healed Aeneas. The facts about Aeneas: a) He was a paralytic in advanced stages of paralysis. b) He had been in bed for eight years. c) He was instantaneously healed. We could add that all who lived in the town and the country saw him, knew him and turned to the Lord. How careful and complete is the confirmation of our faith.

*Pause — wait — think — then express yourself in thoughtful praise or thanks.*

## READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

What a glad amazing time is a resurrection. I am moved to ask: (1) How can I better speak to those

dead in sin? (2) Give me the same purpose in preaching and serving that filled the heart of Peter. (3) May I remember that I have been raised from a death worse than physical. (4) Dear Lord, where is the "new life" and wonder of forgiveness? (5) Teach me the real indepth meaning of "repentance unto life." (6) How can I better rejoice over those who are raised from the dead? (7) What kind of "personal evangelism" did Peter do in Joppa?

*Right here add your personal requests — and his answers.*

## READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

I truly want to hear what you will say from these verses: (1) "There is something worse than death — it is hell!" (2) "You believe — now do something about it!" (3) "Most men do not care if people are dead in sin — do you?"

## INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

*Romania* — Points for prayer: (1) *The Lord's Army* is a remarkable, unofficial organization within the Orthodox Church with about 300,000 converted members and possibly another 200,000 sympathizers. Pray for this very significant movement, and its leaders, which was banned in 1949 and has also been severely persecuted. (2) *Trained leadership is in critically short supply.* The government restricts numbers and scrutinizes applicants to the Baptist Theological College and Pentecostal Bible School. In 1981 there were only 15 students in the former. Only three of the 160 Baptist pastors have had formal training, yet there are 1,300 churches. Outstanding pastors have recently been forced into exile, further complicating the situation. Pray for adequate theological literature to be available (there is virtually none extant in the Romanian language) — all having to come from outside the country. Pray for alternative leadership training schemes. (3) *Bible distribution* is severely limited by government restrictions on importation of Christian literature from the West. Some shipments of legally imported Bibles were even recycled to make toilet paper and re-exported to the West. Locally published Bibles are occasionally issued, but are inadequate in numbers and rarely made available to nonconforming groups which most need them.

## SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine,  
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign;  
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou;  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

# WEEK FIVE

## —Monday—

*“Truth” is that which equals reality. To follow you is to live in the realm of truth. I open the door to reality just now.*



### PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

*You are truth.* What a solid thought. What a strong, satisfying quality of character. On any subject you can give me the facts — the truth on that subject. About any man or woman you can give us the total truth about them, the whole story. You indeed, are the source of all truth and then in the Person of your Son you came into the world as “the way, the truth and the life”!

*Express yourself in adoration for this quality of God. Speak it audibly or write out your praise in your own devotional journal.*

### PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT HE MEANS TO ME

*To me you are the truth* — how I wander, and hesitate, i.e., in any area, but with you I can be sure. I can be calm. I am on firm ground. I have found *the truth*! No word of yours will fall sort of fulfillment. When you tell me I am justified, reconciled, forgiven, I can and do believe it! When you tell me of a place and purpose in heaven, I believe it, and eagerly look forward to it. How personally assuring to cast myself into the arms of TRUTH.

*How do you personally relate to the truth of God, and God who is truth? Speak it out or write it out.*

### CONFESSION OF SIN

To admit falling short, of missing the mark, of transgression of your law is easy in fact, but unless I link it with your love and a total confidence in your forgiveness, I would be discouraged, but I am not at all. I am washed and made clean. Praise for your love and mercy — I have named my sin, but just as freely claimed your cleansing. Amen!

*What personal sins do you want to confess? We must speak them to remove them. Do it! Now.*

### SING-A PRAYER TO GOD

“Give me thy heart, says the Father above,

No gift so precious to Him as our love,  
Softly He whispers wherever thou art,  
“Gratefully love me, and give me thy heart.”  
“Give me thy heart, Give me thy heart.”  
Hear the soft whisper, wherever thou art;  
From this dark world He would draw thee apart,  
Speaking so tenderly, “Give me thy heart.”

*Open your hymn book and sing the rest of the verses — or even sing another prayer song.*

### HIS WORD

**10** At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. <sup>2</sup>He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly. <sup>3</sup>One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, “Cornelius!” —Acts 10:1-3, NIV

### READ HIS WORD TO HIM

You had such a good man in Cornelius — an Italian — I’m sure there have been ten million or more just like him in the land of Italy as well as an equal number in so many other countries around the world. He was attracted by his need to the scriptures, and to the lives of some of the Jews in Caesarea. It is only through the word of God we obtain faith (Rom. 10: 17), but it is as much by a felt need that we reach for the scriptures and help from others. How gloriously have you made man and how perfectly you have provided for his every, deepest need. Cornelius set the pace, not only for his Regiment but for his family. Even as this man, dear God, I know you see our prayers and our giving!

*Please express your response to this beautiful text. Put your expression in your own prayer diary.*

### READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

Dear Lord, how can I be both “devout and God-fearing”? I take the first thought to refer to acts of

devotion such as the hours of prayer — and giving of alms — the second to refer to a total attitude of humility and respect before yourself. How I *do want this!* Will I ever see an angel? If I do or do not I can indeed believe they are even now in this room where I pray. Whether I hear my name called by one of them I yet know they are here to assist me in ways I do not know. How full of meaning it is for me to look upon the very first Gentile (someone like me) to ever hear the good news. At Jesus' birth the good news was for "all men" but God knows we are hard of hearing.

*It is so important that you pause in his presence and either audibly or in written form tell him all his word means to you.*

### READ HIS WORD IN THANKSGIVING

Oh, thank you: (1) For your interesting choice of the first Gentile nation to hear the good news — Italians — I find this provocative (not because I am Italian). (2) That you chose a leader and an important one to lead in the spread of your word — only heaven will tell us how widespread it became. (3) That you chose a family to model the type of people you want — after whom you "seek to worship you" (John 4:23). (4) That *regular* prayer is commended. (5) That an Italian army captain could arrange his schedule to include an hour of prayer three times a day. (6) That angels talk our language and know our names. (7) That our alms and prayers affect others as well as God and ourselves.

*Give yourself to your own expression of gratitude — write it or speak it!*

### READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

*Angels today:* "The angel of the Lord encampeth round them that fear him, and delivereth them" (Psa. 34:7). Here is some general information to make us aware and sensitive to the ministry of angels: (1) God created angels (Psa. 148:2-5; Neh. 9:6; Col. 1:16 ff.; Job 38:7). They were created before this world. (2) Angels are both holy (except those who chose to be evil) and happy (Mark 8:38; I Tim. 5:21; Isa. 6:1-8; Rev. 5:11,12). Happiness is a by-product of holiness. (3) There are innumerable such intelligent beings (Matt. 26:53; Heb. 12:22; Rev. 5:11). (4) You will see in the above references that they are ranked: a) Arch-angels; b) seraphim; c) cherubim. They have: a) thrones; b) dominions; c) might; d) powers; e) principalities. Angels are distinct, neither God, human nor animal (Psa. 8:4,5; Heb. 1:3ff.; 2:9,10,16-18).

*Pause — wait — think — then express yourself in thoughtful praise or thanks.*

### READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

We are introduced to a good man who prayed. He prompts requests from our own hearts: (1) Send me to men like Cornelius. (2) Teach me that regardless of their job there are men who can be reached. (3) Teach me the concern you have for devout God-fearing people. (4) Rebuke my heart — if those who are not Christians can give generously and pray regularly,

what is my excuse? (5) Should I not pray at least three times per day? (6) If angels served Cornelius I know you serve me — thank you! (7) Keep my heart tender that you might reach me with your word.

*Please, please remember these are prayers — speak them — reword them!*

### READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

I, like Cornelius, wait before you: (1) "Being good is not enough for salvation." (2) "You are not saved if you do not give and pray." (3) "There are other men who would listen like Cornelius if I had someone like Peter."

### INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

*Rwanda* — Points for prayer: (1) *Praise God for the open door for the gospel* and also for the noteworthy "Rwanda Revival" of the '30s in the Anglican Church, which spread to many denominations and lands in East Africa and beyond. Spiritual life is still evident, but much of the love and fire of that generation has gone. Pray that Christians may be an example to the nation that has been torn by the intertribal warfare and massacres of the '60s. (2) *Christian leaders of vision and spiritual caliber are needed.* Pray for those in training in the inter-church seminary in Butare and elsewhere in Africa and the West. All too often those who are highly trained find it hard to be satisfied with the ministry and support in a land of poor rural churches. Pray for the training of local leaders in the churches. (3) *Scripture Union* has a blessed ministry among young people of all churches, this helping to lessen denominational rivalry. Pray for blessing on the daily Bible-reading notes and extension of this ministry to the churches, for this is often the only systematic Bible training most people get.

### SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

Christ has for sin atonement made,  
What a wonderful Savior!

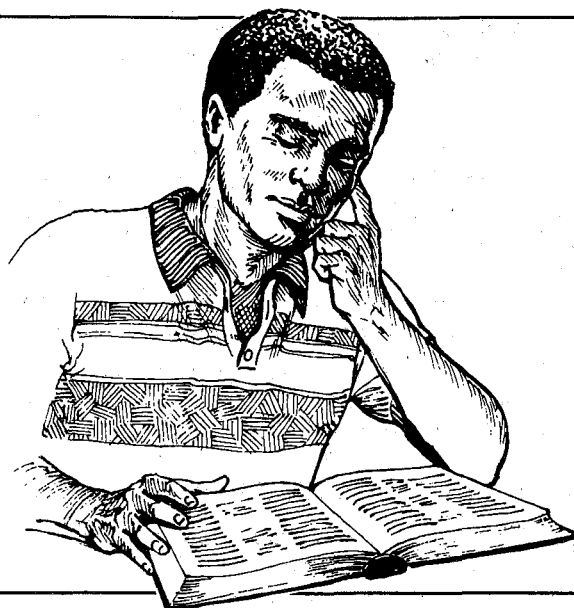
We are redeemed! the price is paid!  
What a wonderful Savior!

What a wonderful Savior is Jesus, my Jesus!  
What a wonderful Savior is Jesus, my Lord!

# WEEK FIVE

## —Tuesday—

*Jesus said he would leave us his peace.  
A tranquility of spirit that can not be  
defined in words. I enter his closet and  
claim his gift.*



### PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

*Peace.* You are my peace and the peace of the whole world. Peace is not just the absence of hostility, but a deep sense of oneness and wholeness. A total rest of the being of man. You have made a peace we are to accept. Praise your wonderful name! I am so glad my life and the lives of all men of the earth can be a tranquil day of peace. All nature is at peace with you — all the billions of constellations in the heavens are at peace.

*Express yourself in adoration for this quality of God. Speak it audibly or write out your praise in your own devotional journal.*

### PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT HE MEANS TO ME

The greatest area of peace is my own heart! In my thoughts: do I rest all intellectual activity finally in your word? Am I perfectly willing to let your peace that passeth my understanding garrison my thoughts? Dear God, I am willing — make me more willing. Am I at peace in my will? I.e., am I willing to do your will? Sometimes I have great difficulty deciding just what your will is. I think I know, but it does seem so impossible! Dear God, I need trust, not knowledge. Right now, I commit, I submit, I wait, I will!

*How do you personally relate to the peace of God, and God who is peace? Speak it out or write it out. It is so important that you establish your own devotional journal.*

### CONFESSION OF SIN

“Their god is their stomach.” This is a sad, sinful description of our (my) generation and society. I am influenced by such a permeating, pervasive influence. Dear God, help me! Help me to beat, bruise, control my body — lest it control me. Forgive me, dear God! Move me into total interest in the “things of the Spirit.”

*What personal sins do you want to confess?  
We must speak them to remove them. Do it! Now.*

### SING A PRAYER TO GOD

I stand amazed in the presence  
Of Jesus the Nazarene,  
And wonder how He could love me,  
A sinner, condemned, unclean.  
How marvelous! how wonderful!  
And my song shall ever be:  
How marvelous! how wonderful!  
Is my Savior's love for me!

*Open your hymn book and sing the rest of the verses — or even sing another prayer song.*

### HIS WORD

“Cornelius stared at him in fear. “What is it, Lord?” he asked.

The angel answered, “Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a remembrance before God.

<sup>5</sup>Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter. <sup>6</sup>He is staying with Simon the tanner, whose house is by the sea.”

<sup>7</sup>When the angel who spoke to him had gone, Cornelius called two of his servants and one of his soldiers who was a devout man. <sup>8</sup>He told them everything that had happened and sent them to Joppa.

<sup>9</sup>About noon the following day as they were approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray.  
—Acts 10:4-9, NIV

### READ HIS WORD TO HIM

What a delight to share with you what you have shared with me (and all men). I want to think deeply upon the words of the angel you sent to the Italian army captain: “your prayers and gifts to the poor” — not only what was said but the habit of prayer was noticed; not only the gifts but the condition of the ones receiving them. The poorness of the poor was seen by you. The occupation, address and name of all men are known to you and your messengers. Cornelius was heard and known, not as one who was saved (cf. 11:15), but as one much loved. He had help in every way possible — men, means and an angel.

## READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

Just if I had never seen it before — the three men — I wonder what they thought? Strange man, strange orders, but a trip to Joppa probably was not unwelcome. "He told them everything that had happened" and such a strange story he had to tell them! What a shock to learn of a God who cared and set a messenger to men — and to their master in particular. Could I become that "devout military aide"? I have no reason to doubt the reality of what is said. I do want to follow the incident to its conclusion. I am most curious as to *why* all this has happened.

*It is so important that you pause in his presence and either audibly or in written form tell him all his word means to you.*

## READ HIS WORD IN THANKSGIVING

Indeed I shall read the word in thanksgiving. Thank you for: (1) Cornelius — devout and God-fearing, generous, prayerful, obedient, and careful — what a good man! (2) The angel — direct, real, precise, supernatural. (3) The messengers — informed, obedient, dedicated to their task. (4) Yourself — fully aware, interested in each person, patient, dramatic. (5) A real time and place — Caesarea, Joppa, first century, sand and sea. (6) The tanner Simon — for his hospitality, which made all this a reality. (7) Preserving this record for 2,000 years! Praise you!

*Give yourself to your own expression of gratitude — write it or speak it!*

## READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

"As a remembrance before God." Everyone wants to be remembered. We would all like to think that something we did or said had value beyond the moment. Most of all we want God to remember us. Here is how: There are two things of lasting value to God — of lasting value within themselves — these two things have intrinsic value — they are: (1) *Your prayers* — not just that you prayed, but your devoted habit of prayer — in his case it was 9, 12 and 3 each day. (2) *Your use of money to help the poor* — we remember our Lord "sat over by the treasury" and marked the amounts cast in. Communion or fellowship or joint sharing with God and man is what will be remembered throughout all eternity.

*Pause — wait — think — then express yourself in thoughtful praise or thanks.*

## READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

Surely there are several requests that come from Acts 10:4-9. (1) Move my heart that the sense of sacred awe may never leave me! (2) Make me keenly aware that money and prayer declare the genuineness of my worship. (3) Open my heart to know you know everything I do and everywhere I go. (4) Make me as responsive to what you are saying in your word as Cornelius was to the angel. (5) Am I at all race prejudiced? Show me. (6) Teach me how to arrange my schedule to include prayer at noon. (7) Work out your timing for

the salvation of the lost through me — help me to be ready to respond.

*Right here add your personal requests — and his answers.*

## READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

Dear Lord, I want to understand you when you speak: (1) "Giving and praying are tangible evidence of faith." (2) "I have sent the witness to request the salvation of the lost: Myself, my Son and the Holy Spirit." (3) "I still speak to people when they pray."

## INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

*St. Christopher & Nevis (Leeward Islands, Caribbean); St. Lucia (Windward Islands); St. Vincent and the Grenadines (Windward Islands) — Points for prayer: (1) The economic and political traumas of the last 15 years have shaken the Caribbean. The unconverted have become more receptive and Christians more aware of their responsibilities to both evangelize and influence the standards of society. Praise God for this. Violent changes cannot be ruled out. The widening gap between the rich and poor in the region could be disastrous. (2) Less reached peoples: a) St Lucia is predominantly Catholic, and the Evangelicals are a small minority. b) Many of the smaller Caribbean islands, such as the Grenadines, are poor and isolated, with little clear preaching of the gospel.*

*St. Pierre & Miquelon (Department of France, off the coast of Canada) — Point for prayer: This is the only territory in the Americas without a known Protestant Church. Pray for the evangelization of these French fisher communities. This is a possible field for French Canadian believers.*

## SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;  
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign;  
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou;  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.  
Jesus, Jesus, name that I love,  
Blest name of my Savior,  
Who came from above.

# WEEK FIVE

## —Wednesday—

*If we do not have a good God we have no God at all. I renew my commitment to your goodness.*



### PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

*Goodness.* There could never be enough said about this quality of yourself! Your goodness should lead all mankind to repentance, i.e., the daily, hourly, provision for our life; the balance in the creation about us; the delay in your wrath — all should suggest to us that Someone, even yourself, is standing behind this scene with an infinite interest of deep love. Of course, if man does not read your word, such an understanding will never be his.

*Express yourself in adoration for this quality of God. Speak it audibly or write out your praise in your own devotional journal.*

### PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT HE MEANS TO ME

*Good to me!* Praise your name, it is not difficult to express this praise to you! It would seem my life has been one long example of your goodness. You gave me good parents — such a dear mother and father; you were good to me in my early childhood — food, shelter and friends; and then led me to salvation and service. Ever since that day in 1936 my feet have been directed in pleasant paths. What a tremendous blessing you gave me in my dear wife! Your daily, continual goodness move me to praise and wonder.

*How do you personally relate to the goodness of God, and God who is goodness? Speak it out or write it out. It is so important that you establish your own devotional journal.*

### CONFESSION OF SIN

Dear God, it is not difficult to confess my sins when they are framed by your goodness! Black shows up clearest on white. I am at a loss to know how best to word my prayer — shall I itemize the errors within error? Shall I admit I have not overcome what I have often confessed before? Shall I lose heart and hide my sins? None of these will clear my record! Dear God, all of them together are no answer. I just do *want* to be obedient, humble, forgiving, kind — forgive me, cleanse me!

### SING A PRAYER TO GOD

What a Friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Ev'rything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry  
Ev'rything to God in prayer!

*Open your hymn book and sing the rest of the verses — or even sing another prayer song.*

### HIS WORD

<sup>10</sup>He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. <sup>11</sup>He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. <sup>12</sup>It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles of the earth and birds of the air. <sup>13</sup>Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat." <sup>14</sup>"Surely not, Lord!" Peter replied. "I have never eaten anything impure or unclean." <sup>15</sup>The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean." <sup>16</sup>This happened three times, and immediately the sheet was taken back to heaven. —Acts 10:10-16, NIV

### READ HIS WORD TO HIM

What a wonder and amazement is this! My appreciation and praise is my response to what you are saying here not only to Peter, but to me and to all men. The circumstances you chose for revealing this information is by itself an amazement. You gave Peter a revelation, a vision, a message, at noon, in the broad daylight, by himself, on the second story or roof of a house, while he was hungry and his interest was on food. Animals on the sheet are also a wonder. The detailed identification and variety is of real interest. Your voice, your command — a positive and a negative word — wonderful!

## READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

What a jarring word! Take unto yourself others who do not understand you or appreciate you — indeed whom you do not understand or appreciate. What a shock to find out I have been calling any thing unclean or impure you have cleansed or consider clean! The artificial, provincial barriers I have built up, break them down, remove them. Oh, that I might think as deeply as Peter did that day!

*It is so important that you pause in his presence and either audibly or in written form tell him all his word means to you.*

## READ HIS WORD IN THANKSGIVING

Thank you, so much: (1) That you reveal yourself in the ordinary pursuits of life, like eating. (2) That Peter was open to a vision from you — help me to be open to hear your voice in the circumstances of today. (3) That I can make comparisons in the physical world with the Spiritual world and learn much. (4) For the thoroughness of your words — all these categories: animals, birds and snakes are represented. (5) For Peter's knowledge of your word — even if it was misunderstood — no answer to you with desire to know is lost. (6) There is a moral as well as physical cleanness. (7) You repeat yourself for all of us who are dull of hearing.

*Give yourself to your own expression of gratitude — write it or speak it!*

## READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

GOD HAS MADE US CLEAN! What a happy thought, what a beautiful fact, what a glorious acceptance! God has made me clean, pure, whole, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing. I refer to imputed pureness. I am clean in our Lord, or I am not clean at all in your sight. I might be clean by men's estimates, but my own conscience is a better judge. When you say clean, pure, whole, bless your name I believe it, I accept it, I claim it, I need it, I want it. Amen! and Amen!

*Pause — wait — think — then express yourself in thoughtful praise or thanks.*

## READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

There is much for which we can ask our Lord from this text: Dear Lord, there are several parallels between eating physically and eating spiritually. I need help here: (1) Give me a consuming appetite for the bread from heaven. (2) Teach me regular habits in spiritual nourishment. (3) May I be as thoughtful with your menu as I am with dinner. (4) Help me to vary my diet of your word. (5) Give me friends with whom I can share this food. (6) I want to eat only your living bread — not any of Satan's substitute. (7) Let me chew adequately lest I suffer indigestion.

*Please, please remember these are prayers — speak them — reword them!*

## READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

As you spoke to Peter from heaven so I listen to your word: (1) "Break out of your apathy — eat and live." (2) "There is indeed a word from heaven — hear it." (3) "Never doubt my word — even when it contradicts your desires."

## INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

Samoa — Points for prayer: (1) *The entire population was Christian by 1900*, and every village has a church. The basic structure of society remained intact with the coming of the gospel, and much pride, formalism and compromise is evident. The Mormons have made great inroads into the nominal Protestant community. (2) *There are no unreached peoples, but thousands have never been challenged to a personal commitment to Christ*. Evangelicals are growing in numbers through the Assemblies of God and several smaller denominations. (3) *For years many ardent Samoan missionaries traversed the Pacific*, but now that number is greatly decreased. Pray for renewed vision and zeal for the kingdom of God. (4) *Pacific Students for Christ* serves 11 countries, including Samoa, with student groups in 40 institutions. Pray for the evangelization of Pacific campuses.

## SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

So precious is Jesus, my Savior, my King,  
His praise all the day long with rapture I sing;  
To Him in my weakness for strength I can cling,  
For He is so precious to me.  
For He is so precious to me,  
For He is so precious to me;  
'Tis heaven below  
My Redeemer to know,  
For He is so precious to me.



## WEEK FIVE

### —Thursday—

*Jesus said "I will make you fishers of men" — and only he can do it. I ask for more fishermen.*



#### PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

*Preacher-maker.* Praise your name! It is not my job to make preachers. I am glad to cooperate in any way I can. I am so glad to offer myself. But over the centuries you have produced the preachers. I am glad to acknowledge your infinite ability in this crucial area of life. Dear God, we need nothing more and at the same time nothing less than preachers for this world. There are thirty young men in my two classes who want to learn how to preach. I know you will do it or it will not be done. I am so glad you are not through with making me a preacher.

*Express yourself in adoration for this quality of God. Speak it audibly or write out your praise in your own devotional journal.*

#### PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT HE MEANS TO ME

Making preachers — the complicated procedure is only done by you. I want to lift my heart in wonder for all that is done. Some marvelous work of grace and power has found fulfillment here. Praise your name for whatever has been done with me! Dear God, how deeply I need help in this area — preachers have such a large ego problem — they are constantly in the light of the public and under the criticism of those they try to teach and reach. Oh, help every young man who asks you to make him a fisher of men!

*How do you personally relate to the preacher-making of God, and God who is a preacher-maker? Speak it out or write it out. It is so important that you establish your own devotional journal.*

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

Dear Lord, for each and every sin, I confess them — emotion is totally minus — just the fact that I sin and identify it — label it with your label. I feel defeated and overcome — I need *your* strength, but also your joy! I claim your presence and help! I want, need and enter into your forgiveness — and even now contemplate the robe of your righteousness which covers and envelopes me! Praise your name and grace.

#### SING A PRAYER TO GOD

Jesus, Lover of my soul,  
Let me to Thy bosom fly,  
While the nearer waters roll,  
While the tempest still is high;  
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,  
Till the storm of life is past;  
Safe into the haven guide,  
O receive my soul at last.

*Open your hymn book and sing the rest of the verses — or even sing another prayer song.*

#### HIS WORD

<sup>17</sup>While Peter was wondering about the meaning of the vision, the men sent by Cornelius found out where Simon's house was and stopped at the gate. <sup>18</sup>They called out, asking if Simon who was known as Peter was staying there.

<sup>19</sup>While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit came to him, "Simon, three men are looking for you. <sup>20</sup>So get up and go downstairs. Do not hesitate to go with them, for I have sent them."

<sup>21</sup>Peter went down and said to the men, "I'm the one you're looking for. Why have you come?"

<sup>22</sup>The men replied, "We have come from Cornelius the centurion. He is a righteous and God-fearing man, who is respected by all the Jewish people. A holy angel told him to have you come to his house so that he could hear what you have to say." <sup>23</sup>Then Peter invited the men into the house to be his guests. The next day Peter started out with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa went along. —Acts 10:17-23, NIV

#### READ HIS WORD TO HIM

Gladly, gladly do I read to you what you have written to me in deepest appreciation for every word. Peter, like me and millions of others, "was wondering about the meaning . . ." of your communication to him. Oh, how we all wonder, and misunderstand, and ignore and reject your word — but your answer is never

far behind — while we are still thinking about it you are sending the meaning to us. I believe we have missed, overlooked or rejected your messengers full many a time. It has not been your lack of interest that has left me confused, but my insensitivity and preoccupation with other things.

*Please express your response to this beautiful text. Put your expression in your own prayer diary.*

### READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

Read this word to myself — in praise, adoration, thanksgiving, petition — I eagerly approach what you are saying to me. Are you sending men to speak to me concerning your will for my life? Indeed you are! In every message from your word I hear you speaking to me, i.e., if I have ears to hear. Dear God, may I today be ready to welcome your messengers. "I am the one you are looking for," so said Peter and so say I! Dear Lord, I believe you will be looking for someone to stand in the gap for you in so many areas. I want to be that man. I know I must first invite you to be my house-guest before I can be used of you. Come in and sup with me, dear Savior!

*It is so important that you pause in his presence and either audibly or in written form tell him all his word means to you.*

### READ HIS WORD IN THANKSGIVING

This always seems to be the most spontaneous time of prayer. Thanksgiving seems to be the most obvious natural expression of our relationship with you. Thank you: (1) For the quality of persistence in fulfilling your word. If Peter was not found, your work could not be done. (2) The Holy Spirit is an intelligent Being who speaks. He speaks in easily understood words, about very mundane, but important matters. (3) For men today like Cornelius — dear God, help me to be as willing as Peter to help them. (4) For the three unnamed men — I'll find out their names and ask them all about the trip, i.e., when I see them in your presence. (5) For the beautiful sea beside which Peter stayed for a few days. (6) That there are "holy" angels — some have chosen not to be. Thank you for all who chose to be holy — may I do likewise. (7) That only poor, weak, ignorant, sinful man can tell anyone what to do to be saved. Not even holy angels can do that.

*Give yourself to your own expression of gratitude — write it or speak it!*

### READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

Let's gather around your word and see what the Lord is saying to us: (1) I too can be: a) *devout* — an attitude of the heart — I chose to be humble, single-minded, willing; b) *God-fearing* — it is a fool who doesn't fear God. My Lord told me to fear you not abjectly, but in reality and truth; c) *one who gives generously* — oh, how good it is to testify that we are so blessed when we give generously to those who have a need. The percentage of giving surprises me and humbles me! d) *one who prays to you regularly* —

this I want and will *do!* and I so, so enjoy it! Some days it is not easier for me than it was for the Italian army captain. (2) Just who was the heavenly visitor? No name is given — perhaps Gabriel or Michael — but not named so we could relate him to the angels encamped around our lives.

*Pause — wait — think — then express yourself in thoughtful praise or thanks.*

### READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

It is so good to ask directly from your word: (1) Give me goals from yourself in reaching the lost in my community. (2) I want to know the proper combination of human and divine in reaching the lost. (3) Are there men even today who are seeking to hear what to do to be saved? (4) Give me insight in using my home as a place to introduce men and women to you. (5) Who today are like the three men from Cornelius? (6) Open my mind to the tremendous power of words. (7) I am not as concerned as I should be with the righteous, God-fearing, but lost men — help me!

*Right here add your personal requests — and his answers.*

### READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

Open my inner ears to hear what the Spirit is saying through his word: (1) "My word will always give meaning to your visions." (2) "When I send, do not hesitate." (3) "Welcome all I send to you."

### INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

*San Marino*

*Area 62 sq. km. (24 sq. mi.) An enclave in North Central Italy. Independent since AD 301.*

*Religion 94.% Christian: 92.3% Roman Catholic, 0.7% Jehovah's Witnesses.*

*There are no known groups of Protestant believers in the republic. Sadly, only Jehovah's Witnesses have succeeded in starting a group.*

### SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

All glory, laud and honor  
To Thee, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring!  
The people of the Hebrews  
With palms before Thee went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems  
Before Thee we present.

## WEEK FIVE

### —Friday—

*What a wonder it will be when we enter that city whose builder and maker is yourself. I renew my solid hope just now.*



#### PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

*City-builder.* You are indeed the builder of the city-foursquare — the One who builds the city for which Abraham looked. What a good thought: all the excitement and interest of a city, minus all the lust of the flesh, eyes and pride of life. How intrinsically beautiful the city would be if you were the architect and builder. The abiding places or apartments would be something to behold! I am not thinking of wealth or physical luxury in the same sense as we have it today. A million times better.

*Express yourself in adoration for this quality of God. Speak it audibly or write out your praise in your own devotional journal.*

#### PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT HE MEANS TO ME

*City-builder for me.* You are just as concerned about all men as you are any one man — but to build a city just to please me, or anyone, I really do not have a large consuming interest in a city. I am quite interested in things of beauty — in form, color and usefulness — the combination of all the beauty and color you have placed in a new world would be a wonder to behold. I praise you for the interest you have in providing for those who deserve nothing.

*How do you personally relate to the city-building of God, and God who is city-builder? Speak it out or write it out. It is so important that you establish your own devotional journal.*

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

It is monotonous to confess the same sin every day, not because I do not want to repent. I do! But because I have so little improvement, I will continue to name, by label, my sins and sincerely repent of them, but I want to open your word and examine my heart in the light of the sins you have named. *Lying:* How easy, so incredibly easy it is to misrepresent. I believe pride is behind most of my lies. The fear of man is also a very real cause. I want to work on the reason, the source and hopefully I can change the result. Dear

God, forgive!

*What personal sins do you want to confess? We must speak them to remove them. Do it! Now. There is no one else you have sinned against more than God. Tell him so!*

#### SING A PRAYER TO GOD

I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice,  
And it told Thy love to me;  
But I long to rise in the arms of faith,  
And be closer drawn to Thee.  
Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,  
To the cross where Thou hast died;  
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,  
To Thy precious bleeding side.

*Open your hymn book and sing the rest of the verses — or even sing another prayer song.*

#### HIS WORD

<sup>23</sup>Then Peter invited the men into the house to be his guests.

The next day Peter started out with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa went along. <sup>24</sup>The following day he arrived in Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. <sup>25</sup>As Peter entered the house, Cornelius met him and fell at his feet in reverence. <sup>26</sup>But Peter made him get up. "Stand up," he said, "I am only a man myself."

<sup>27</sup>Talking with him, Peter went inside and found a large gathering of people. <sup>28</sup>He said to them, "You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with a Gentile or visit him. But God has shown me that I should not call any man impure or unclean. <sup>29</sup>So when I was sent for, I came without raising any objection. May I ask why you sent for me?"

<sup>30</sup>Cornelius answered, "Four days ago I was in my house praying at this hour, at three in the afternoon. Suddenly a man in shining clothes stood before me

<sup>31</sup>and said, 'Cornelius, God has heard your prayer and

remembered your gifts to the poor. <sup>32</sup>Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He is a guest in the home of Simon the tanner, who lives by the sea.' <sup>33</sup>So I sent for you immediately, and it was good of you to come. Now we are all here in the presence of God to listen to everything the Lord has commanded you to tell us." — *Acts 10:23-33, NIV*

### READ HIS WORD TO HIM

What an interesting conversation must have passed between Peter and the three from Caesarea along with the six Jewish Christians from Joppa. The details of the vision of Peter and Cornelius must have been repeated several times. I know you could repeat every word spoken by all ten men. It was a somewhat leisurely walk, judging the distance and the time. Just who were the relatives and friends of Cornelius? I should like to meet them — every one — when there is no time and we have supernatural powers of communication, I shall indeed do it! What a good man is this first Gentile convert! What a humble man is Peter!

*Please express your response to this beautiful text. Put your expression in your own prayer diary.*

### READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

Dear Lord, there is so much for me to learn and accept from these verses: (1) Association with others — a joint sharing — I have such a tendency to be by myself. (2) To respect other people, to honor them, to prefer them to myself. (3) When God speaks through a man and it is evident, people *will* come out to hear and see. (4) I should not, in any sense, call any man impure or unclean — i.e., fail to associate with and share the good news with him. (5) The first sermon to Jews was at a prayer time — 9 a.m. — the first sermon to Gentiles was at a prayer time — 3 p.m. Doesn't this say something to me about prayer time?

*It is so important that you pause in his presence and either audibly or in written form tell him all his word means to you.*

### READ HIS WORD IN THANKSGIVING

Thank you: (1) For the well established word, i.e., that there were not two or three but *six* Jewish Christians to confirm what was done and said — so is all of your word so very clearly, openly established! (2) That Peter refused to be worshipped — for whatever reason — "only a man" says so well what all of us are. (3) That the law of exclusiveness has been abrogated. (4) That God is in the "show and tell" business for us children. (5) That God has a way of removing man's objections. (6) That even a busy army captain can keep the hours of prayer. (7) That we can be in your presence at anytime, anywhere, but most especially for the preaching of the word!

*Give yourself to your own expression of gratitude — write it or speak it!*

### READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

"It was good of you to come." (1) It was good of

God to come in the Person of his Son — to give himself for us who lived in darkness. (2) It was good of the angels to come to certain poor shepherds and brighten up their night with "joy to the world." (3) It was good of the Holy Spirit to come and clothe himself with the minds of the apostles and tell the good news to the nations, beginning at Jerusalem. (4) It was good of God to come in a vision to Peter on Simon's housetop. (5) It was good of Peter to come to the "unclean" serviceman in Caesarea.

*Pause — wait — think — then express yourself in thoughtful praise or thanks.*

### READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

As you spoke to Peter, so speak to me as to my needed requests: (1) All of this record is so believable — help me to remember the truths I learn. (2) Dear Lord, help me in my sometimes inordinate admiration of men. (3) Break down the barriers I have built between myself and other men. (4) Forgive me for calling men stupid or ignorant. May I share your value system. (5) Give me courage and direction that one day I might be given the "shining clothes" of heaven. (6) Am I willing to make unexpected moves? I.e., if you direct them, I want to be. (7) Give me a deep appreciation for other servants of yourself.

*Please, please remember these are prayers — speak them — reword them!*

### READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

You are indeed speaking to me through these verses: (1) "Accept all I say — it is established by many witnesses." (2) "In no way worship any man." (3) "Respect all those who speak for me."

### INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

*Sao Tome & Principe (Two larger and several smaller islands in the Gulf of Guinea west of Gabon. Former colony of Portugal, independent in 1975). — Point for prayer: The major Protestant witness is that of the Assemblies of God with 12 congregations in the islands. There are several smaller groups, but the majority of the population is nominally Catholic. There are no missionaries.*

### SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

Wounded for me, wounded for me,  
There on the cross He was wounded for me;  
Gone my transgressions, and now I am free,  
All because Jesus was wounded for me.

# WEEK FIVE

## —Saturday—

*How carefully — subtly — silently — sometimes violently do you plan our lives — I bow before your work in me.*



### PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

*Life-planner.* Dear Lord, you are surely in this business if any at all. I know all things are planned by you. Every life is the object of your interest. Praise your name! You do have a plan for every life. Whether your plan is accepted or not is man's choice, but it is not because of any lack of interest on your part. How wondrously good it is to know our lives are in your heart. Dear Lord, I am glad you have an interest in my life.

*Express yourself in adoration for this quality of God. Speak it audibly or write out your praise in your own devotional journal.*

### PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT HE MEANS TO ME

Please work on my life for today — just for today — I know if this is my prayer each day that my whole life will have been planned of you. I do want to submit my stubborn will to your lovingness, to your kindness, to your cheerfulness, to your willingness. However grandiose my ideas of your plan for my life might be, if I do not allow you to plan my character, there is no real fulfillment of any plan — i.e., you are more interested in me than what I do or fail to do.

*How do you personally relate to the life-planning of God, and God who is life-planner? Speak it out or write it out. It is so important that you establish your own devotional journal.*

### CONFESSION OF SIN

Dear Lord, I freely confess stealing time that should have been given to the saving of the lost, to attempting to edify or educate — or at least so it would seem. I have stolen the devotion that should have been yours and squandered it on myself. Dear Lord, forgive. I have stolen money from the poor and starving and have given it to myself and for my “things.” Dear Lord, forgive.

*What personal sins do you want to confess? We must speak them to remove them. Do it! Now.*

### SING A PRAYER TO GOD

He leadeth me, O blessed thought!  
O words with heav'nly comfort fraught.  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,  
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.  
He leadeth me, He leadeth me!  
By His own hand He leadeth me!  
His faithful foll'wer I would be,  
For by His hand He leadeth me.

*Open your hymn book and sing the rest of the verses — or even sing another prayer song.*

### HIS WORD

<sup>34</sup>Then Peter began to speak: “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism <sup>35</sup>but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right. <sup>36</sup>This is the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>You know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached — <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

<sup>39</sup>“We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup>but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. <sup>41</sup>He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen — by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.” — *Acts 10:34-43, NIV*

### READ HIS WORD TO HIM

How I do want to agree with and confirm in my own heart every word you have given me through Peter. I

will list the qualities of yourself I see here in this text and embrace them to my heart: (1) No favoritism. (2) Accepts men from every nation who fear you. (3) Accepts those who do what is right, i.e., accept your dear Son. (4) You sent good news of peace. (What good news *peace* is!) (5) That *Jesus is Lord of all*! (6) You anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and power. (7) Your dear Son went around doing good. He went around healing all who were under the power of the devil. (8) He went around doing all of this because you were with him. Oh, so much more — for all the above I fall at your feet in wonder and praise!

*Please express your response to this beautiful text. Put your expression in your own prayer diary.*

### READ HIS WORD FOR YOURSELF

To continue my praise: (9) You provided eyewitnesses and gave them the Holy Spirit to enable them to speak with total accuracy and tell us of all that was done to your dear Son in his suffering and death. (10) You raised him from the dead (by the Holy Spirit) on a specific day — the third day. (11) You *caused him* to be seen, i.e., his appearances were set in such circumstances as to be undeniable — not just by chance but by plan; to witnesses who could well establish what they had seen, chosen by you for this very task. Wonderful. Praise your name!

*It is so important that you pause in his presence and either audibly or in written form tell him all his word means to you.*

### READ HIS WORD IN THANKSGIVING

Indeed I shall! Thank you: (1) For those “who ate and drank with [my blessed Lord] after he rose from the dead.” I want to savor every swallow and every bite, and talk to everyone. (Oh, God, give me the questions to ask them.) (2) That you have “commanded us to preach” — it is not just a good idea — it is an imperial edict! (3) You have also commanded us (through the example of the apostles) to give our personal testimony of all you have done for us! (4) You are the judge of the living — every living person upon the face of this earth, and all who have lived, or will live upon this little speck called “earth.” (5) For Jeremiah, Isaiah, Daniel, Micah and all the prophets who have told us so much about our Lord. (6) Oh, what a word! “EVERYONE”! Whosoever and everyone (means *me*!) receives forgiveness of sins. (7) That I can believe — it is all because of what is included in *his name*!

*Give yourself to your own expression of gratitude — write it or speak it!*

### READ HIS WORD IN MEDITATION

This is such a blessed passage: I am overwhelmed. Upon what shall we meditate! Here it is! “*We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and Jerusalem.*” Please, please turn to the four gospels and absorb every word of those eyewitnesses of his majesty! The description of Israel as “the country of the Jews” is most intriguing. What did he do

there? He lived and worked for 30 years in a little town called Nazareth. When he was tired from much work he did not grouse or complain. When he saw others with much more than he did he remembered the place where all has eternal value. When he saw the inequities of life he knew there will be a day when all shall find equity. He went to a wedding feast and turned the water — the necessary, but tasteless water, the routine of life — into the refreshing red fruit of the vine. This he was to do for all of life for all men, for all time.

*Pause — wait — think — then express yourself in thoughtful praise or thanks.*

### READ HIS WORD FOR PETITIONS

This is such a blessed section of scripture that I rejoice in the privilege of considering petitions from the text: (1) Help me to accept every one God accepts. (2) Give me the peace the great prince has purchased for me. (3) How I do want Jesus to be Lord of all in my life. (4) Just what “good” did Jesus do? Help me to do the same. (5) Deliver me day by day from the power of the evil one. (6) What confidence I can have in the risen Lord. How can I share this confidence? (7) Oh, dear Lord, that your Son will judge the living and the dead is indeed an awesome thought! What can I do to prepare men for this event?

### READ HIS WORD AND WAIT — LISTEN — GOD SPEAKS

You spoke so eloquently through your Son — through him speak to me: (1) “I show no favoritism — do you?” (2) “My good news contains peace.” (3) “There will be a judgment for all men.”

### INTERCESSION FOR THE LOST WORLD

*Saudi Arabia* — Points for prayer: (1) *Saudi Arabia is one of the least evangelized nations on earth.* What a challenge to faith: no known believers, no indigenous churches, no Christian workers permitted to enter the country, and no Christian even allowed to set foot in Islam’s holiest city of Mecca. Pray that this land, the heart of Islam, may see a demonstration of the power of the blood of the Lamb. (2) *Great efforts are made to shield the population from foreign influences* that could “corrupt” society. Pray that even this may stimulate a desire for the Truth and an openness to the gospel. Very few Saudis have heard the Good News, seen a Bible or met a true believer. (3) *Eight hundred million Muslims worldwide* bow daily in prayer towards Mecca, and 2.5 million pilgrims annually make the “Hajj” to visit the birthplace of Islam. Pray that many may have their eyes opened to see the emptiness and bondage under which they live, and embrace the freedom that there is in Christ.

### SING PRAISES TO OUR LORD

Jesus shall reign where’er the sun  
Does his successive journeys run;  
His kingdom spread from shore to shore,  
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.