**I Love to Tell the Story**

**Day 231 Judgment by Jesus’ Word John 12: 44-50**

Guided reflection:

Now Jesus was speaking to the people of his day who were not listening to him but instead judging him and plotting to kill him, but his words are still for us today! Do you believe in Jesus – then you believe in God! If you believe in Jesus, then you have access to light and can get out of darkness! We do not need to feel shamed or condemned by Jesus, because Jesus did not come to condemn us, but to save us! In other words, the stories of Jesus you have been reading are not just literature, but are life giving words! Do you believe?

Guided prayer:

*“I do believe, help my unbelief! Amen”*

**Day 242 Jesus washes His Disciples’ Feet John 13:P 1-20**

Guided reflection:

I wonder why this was not recorded in the other gospels, but John makes sure we get the whole story. At the Last Supper, no one did the servants job of washing their dusty feet, so Jesus does it! Jesus uses this act to be an object lesson about servant hood. Jesus wants us to know that it is when we serve others, we are serving Christ. Jesus wants them (and us) to know that if we receive Him, we receive God – they are one. And, Jesus wants us to know that our greatness is correlated to our humbleness in God’s book!

Guided prayer:

*“I want to be a servant for Jesus too. I want to be the hands and feet of Jesus. I want to be made clean through Jesus’ words. Amen.”*

**Day 233 The New Commandment John 13: 31-35**

Guided reflection:

Jesus wants them to know that He is not going to be with them much longer. Now they must change their focus from him to each other. “This is my commandment, that you love one another. As ‘I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then I will know you are my disciples.” Well, dear ones,

that is Jesus’ bottom line. How are you doing at loving others? Does your servant hood show that you are a disciple? What can you do right now to be love for others? Make a ”to do” list!

Guided prayer:

*“I have not always loved others as you would have me love. Forgive me. But also help me come up with concrete plans to show your love. Amen” (*OK, what is your plan?)

**Day 234 Jesus’ promise about the next life John 14:1-14**

Guided reflection:

This passage is a favorite to use at funerals, because we are saying good by to a loved one, just as Jesus was saying good by to his dear Disciples – thus to us! Now that Jesus is sitting at the right hand of God, He is actively preparing a place for us… where there is room for us – our coming is anticipated! Jesus is the way to that next life… and He is not worried about us! If we believe in Jesus, then we will do even greater works than Jesus did because His spirit is with us, empowering us to be the hands and feet of Christ. Are you afraid to die? Do you believe that Jesus is preparing a place for you?

Guided prayer:

*“You do not want my heart to be troubled… so I believe in what Jesus said to the disciples. I trust that a place is prepared for me. I trust that my coming is anticipated and cherished. Help my unbelief! Amen!”*

**Day 235 Jesus prays for us John 14: 15-31**

Guided reflection:

This is one of the dearest passages in all of scripture. Jesus is explaining how to keep the faith… keep the relationship with him going after he leaves them. These are his last statements to his beloved ones. We call this the last supper for a reason…and John lets us in on the conversation, Enjoy the words… Jesus is giving you instructions on how to make it in this world where we have trouble and fear – but we need to be at peace, because Jesus has overcome the world! Do not worry or be upset!! Just do what Jesus told you to do!

Guided prayer:

*“Sometimes I am afraid. Sometimes I am not at peace. Help me hear the words of Jesus to not be afraid… that Jesus is the overcomer and then so am I! Thank you for your peace. Amen”*

that is Jesus’ bottom line. How are you doing at loving others? Does your servant hood show that you are a disciple? What can you do right now to be love for others? Make a ”to do” list!

Guided prayer:

*“I have not always loved others as you would have me love. Forgive me. But also help me come up with concrete plans to show your love. Amen” (*OK, what is your plan?)