

# Looking for the Light

a devotional from  
ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Tuesday, March 31, 2020

by Hallie Boh

Psalm 143:5-8

I remember the days of old,  
I think about all your deeds,  
I meditate on the works of your hands.  
I stretch out my hands to you;  
my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.  
Answer me quickly, O Lord;  
my spirit fails.  
Do not hide your face from me,  
or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.  
Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning,  
for in you I put my trust.  
Teach me the way I should go,  
for to you I lift up my soul.

## Reflection:

For far too long, I've looked back on each day and realized I made all sorts of choices without remotely considering my identity as a child of Christ. Perhaps you've been in the same boat? It's a lifeboat with a navigation plan you've abandoned, and away you drift. For me, that drift becomes a current. I am hurrying towards something in the distance without noticing what's already at home. I am devoid of gratefulness. I can't figure out how to fixate my awareness on the gifts God has given me, much less operate them according to his plan instead of mine.

Then along comes a pandemic that shakes the entire world and uproots all of our routines. How brutally unsubtle God can be sometimes! Suddenly far more obvious are the blessings of health, family, science, technology, employment, education, food, safety, community, and our church.

I was on this church staff when Katrina hit. In the aftermath, it took me hours to send out the Prayers of the Day, weeks to eek out our first newsletter, and still more weeks just to make signs and brochures for some new ministry called "RHINO."

Today during this time of separation, I am extremely grateful for the cloud-based data and smart devices and interconnected softwares we can all use to congregate remotely as a church. These are the resources I wouldn't have thought to be thankful for two weeks ago.

So thank you all for tapping in today, for at the end of all these threads is you. You are the lifeblood of this church and God has made it so. Together always, let's lift up our souls to him.

**PRAYER:**

O God, early in the morning I cry to you.  
Help me to pray  
And to concentrate my thoughts on you;  
I don't understand your ways,  
But you know the way for me.

You have granted me many blessings;  
Now let me also accept what's hard from your hand.  
You will lay on me no more than I can bear.  
You make all things work together for good for your children.

It's your will that I should know you and turn to you.  
Lord, I hear your call and follow.  
Amen.

*-excerpted from "Morning Prayer for Fellow Prisoners"  
Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

*To send us your prayer requests, click on [this link](#) and our church staff and prayer group will add you to our weekly prayer list. You will have the option to specify your request as confidential.*

*If you would like to contribute to our daily devotionals, please email Pastor Sarah, [sarah@scapc.org](mailto:sarah@scapc.org).*

[www.scapc.org](http://www.scapc.org)

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