

Thoughts for Today Blog # 225 “Stay Focused”

THOUGHTS FOR TODAY

April 1, 2020, Rev. Dr. Dave McCowan cdavemccowan@gmail.com

Hebrews 11:1 “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

Through all the crises we have been facing over these past few weeks, it has been difficult for me to stay focused on my devotions. I will start to read them and find my mind wandering to something else. I will start praying and then my mind will wonder to some of my cares and concerns. This has led to increased fear, frustration, and guilt for neglecting my devotional life.

I thought I would write this blog for two reasons as we begin a new month. One, we have transitioned from Jacob to Joseph in our yearly reading. Two, I need to write about the things of God. I get a blessing when I write about the things of God and reflect on His goodness toward me and others.

As I said before, I find myself spending more time reading news and less time reading the Bible and praying. It seems there is an inverse relationship between the news and my devotions. One would think bad news would lead to more devotion and prayer. Well, that has not been the case for me and I am somewhat ashamed to admit that. Well, what am I going to do about that?

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The first thing I decided to do was to write this blog and confess my shortcoming to you. It helps me to be honest with you, the reader. Pray for me that I will be faithful to my devotions.

Second, I plan to limit the amount of time I read the news.

Third, I commit to reading my devotions each day. I am behind in my reading so I plan to start with today’s readings and go back as I have time. I promise myself that I will not allow the devil to defeat me because of the devotions I have not finished.

Fourth, I commit to quality time in prayer with the Lord. I am going to spend time praising Him, thanking Him, and asking Him specifically for what I want.

In closing, let me share with you the lyrics from a song that has been on my mind these past few days. It is starting to help me stay focused.

Turn your eyes upon Jesus

Look full in His wonderful face

And the things of earth will grow strangely deem

In the light of His glory and grace.

I commit to looking to Jesus to stay focused on the things that are important in these most difficult times.

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