

“Lord, we show our trust in you by obeying your laws; our heart’s desire is to glorify your name. In the night I search for you; in the morning I earnestly seek you. For only when you come to judge the earth will people learn what is right.” Isaiah 26:8-9 NLT

[lectio] // ISAIAH 26:1-9

Isaiah’s words are still true today! I show TRUST when I obey God’s laws. I grab for sin because I don’t trust that God provides, so I force my will and desires by obtaining what I think will satisfy or fulfill my needs. And in my relationships, he writes, “In the night and in the morning”, this is a normal pattern of relationship. Every night I say goodnight to those in my house, and every morning I greet them with good morning. So it is with my relationship with God. I can BE with God everyday, even in moments when I need him most. He is NEAR. I had a friend tell me at church, “2018 was a year of disappointment and disaster. 2019 was a year of survival. But in 2020 I want to thrive!” So it was with me and some of my family. 2018 was a horribly HARD year. 2019 began to turn things around and I began to see hope restored. But 2020, I, like my friend, want to thrive! To be like Jesus, I need to live like he lived - intentional, obedient, listening to the Holy Spirit as he leads.

[oratio]

Dad,

We are in the last days of this year and this decade. As I enter into a new season and as I approach sixty in a couple of years, help me to TRUST. Help me to be intentional, focused on eternal things, be sensitive to the Holy Spirit and see you do amazing things in my life, family, neighbors, church and world. In this world there will be hardship and sorrow, but let me be of good cheer knowing that you have overcome the world and the culture, systems and structures of this fallen planet.

[contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root