

Great, Great Morning,

Welcome to Day 5 of our journey together. What an awesome and Faithful God we serve.

Morning Thought:

"Oh that you would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, **and that You would keep me from evil...**" (1Chronicles 4:10)

" And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen." (Matthew 6:13)

"No test or temptation that comes your way is beyond the course of what others have had to face. All you need to remember is that **God will never let you down;** he'll never let you be pushed past your limit; **he'll always be there to help you come through it.**" (1 corinthians 10:13 msg.)

Temptation can be described as the pull we feel to please ourselves at the expense of pleasing God. We might think of temptation as a three-front war that we all must face until we reach heaven: temptations from the world, from our own wrong desires, and from evil. **(Partially adapted from David Wilkinson, The Prayer of Jabez)** The devil is the tempter. Besides putting temptations in our path, Satan fiercely opposes God's will and work in us. Peter warns us that **"your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."** (1 Peter 5:8)

In the morning thought above, we find that the last part of Jabez's prayer, "that you would **keep me from** evil..." mirrors the world's most famous prayer, known today as the Lord's Prayer. Jesus taught us to pray, "And **do not lead us in temptation,** but deliver us from evil."

FFT: Jabez didn't pray "keep me **through** evil," he prayed "keep me **from** evil." According to David Wilkinson, Jabez understood that our most important strategy for defeating the roaring lion is to stay out of the arena." **During our Fast journey, "How are you praying when you face temptations?"**

In 1 Corinthians 10, we are reminded that there is no temptation that can be experienced that God will not see us through and provide a way of escape. If you are being tempted throughout our journey, remember, you are not alone; and our heavenly Father has prepared for you a way of escape. **Look for it.**

Be blessed on this wonderful Wednesday! **Below, please find Reflection #5.**

Pray for me, as I pray for you,



Thirty Day Journey

Day 5

Verse of the Day:

“God can do anything you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest Dreams! He does it not by pushing us, but by His Spirit deeply and gently within us.” (Ephesians 3:20-21 Message)

Reflection:

Think about this: What positive changes in your life could happen if you relied on God’s unlimited Power instead of your limited willpower? God says, “Don’t depend on your own power or strength, but on my Spirit.” (Zechariah 4:6 CEV). God will help you as you rely on Him and trust Him to give you the ability and power to change what you want to change. God knows what makes you tick. He knows your dreams. He knows the beat of your heart. In Jeremiah, the question was asked: “Is there anything too hard for God?” The response of course was a resounding “NO, there is nothing too hard for God!” Now, I ask you, “Is there anything too hard for God?” God will keep and sustain you as you continue with your 30-Day Journey.

Prayer:

Father, thank you for reminding us that only Holy Spirit has the power to make the changes that you want to make in our lives. Help us to allow Christ to live through us...through the choices we make. Help us to choose to do the right thing and then trust Your Spirit to give us His Power, Love, Faith, and Wisdom to do it. Help us to trust and rely on You, as you complete the work that You have begun in us. As we continue with our 30-Day Journey, help us to choose the best things for our Spirit, Soul, and Body. In you Holy Name Jesus; Amen.

