

FRIDAY EVENING OPENING RITUAL

- ~In what way has fear or some other burden played a part in my life story?
- ~What label have I worn that I most dislike or that diminishes my self worth?
- ~What is going on in my life that makes me feel like I'm drowning?
- ~What do I fear most?
- ~What heavy weight do I keep carrying?
- ~What do I need to let go of right now to take the first step toward resting in God's presence?

I am not:

I no longer carry:
Why am I here?

~What do I want to ASK God to give me this weekend?

~What is the desire of my heart?

Beloved,

"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly." Matthew 11:28-30 The Message

Reflecting on Your Word and this experience, What did I hear Christ say?

I am thankful for:

I praise You for :

Tell me your story.....

I'll tell you what love sees.....

FRIDAY RECONCILIATION

Choices I make have an impact on all of God's creation. How has negative or hopeless thinking made me make poor choices? How have I failed to seek God's direction? How have I failed to trust God's love and provision? Why have I turned my sight away from Christ?

Beloved,

Romans 7:25-8:30 The Message (MSG)

²⁵....."Jesus Christ ...acted to set things right in this life of contradictions where I want to serve God with all my heart and mind, but am pulled by the influence of sin to do something totally different. **8** ¹⁻²With the arrival of Jesus, the Messiah, that fateful dilemma is resolved..... The Spirit of life in Christ, like a strong wind, has magnificently cleared the air, freeing you from a fated lifetime of brutal tyranny at the hands of sin and death. ³⁻⁴...Jesus,... personally took on the human condition, entered the disordered mess of struggling humanity in order to set it right once and for all.....⁵⁻⁸ Those who trust God's action in them find that God's Spirit is in them—living and breathing God! Obsession with self in these matters is a dead end; attention to God leads us out into the open, into a spacious, free life...⁹⁻¹¹ But if God himself has taken up residence in your life, you can hardly be thinking more of yourself than of him. Anyone, of course, who has not welcomed this invisible but clearly present God, the Spirit of Christ, won't know what we're talking about. But for you who welcome him, in whom he dwells—even though you still experience all the limitations of sin—you yourself experience life on God's terms....¹⁵⁻¹⁷ This resurrection life you received from God is not a timid, grave-tending life. It's adventurously expectant, greeting God with a childlike "What's next, Papa?" God's Spirit touches our spirits and confirms who we really are. We know who he is, and we know who we are: Father and children. And we know we are going to get what's coming to us—an unbelievable inheritance! We go through exactly what Christ goes through. If we go through the hard times with him, then we're certainly going to go through the good times with him!....²⁶⁻²⁸ Meanwhile,...If we don't know how or what to pray, it doesn't matter. He does our praying in and for us, making prayer out of our wordless sighs, our aching groans. He knows us far better than we know ourselves, knows our...condition, and keeps us present before God. That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good.²⁹⁻³⁰ God knew what he was doing from the very beginning. He decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love him along the same lines as the life of his Son. The Son stands first in the line of humanity he restored. We see the original and intended shape of our lives there in him. After God made that decision of what his children should be like, he followed it up by calling people by name. After he called them by name, he set them on a solid basis with himself. And then, after getting them established, he stayed with them to the end, gloriously completing what he had begun."

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SATURDAY “Fear, Anxiety, Depression”

In what way does fear control my life?

TRUST & TRUTH

Beloved,

“...trusting me, you will be unshakable and assured, deeply at peace. In this godless world you will continue to experience difficulties. But take heart! I have conquered the world.” John 16.33

“You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free.” John 8:42

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Tell me your story.....

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“Good girl gone bad”

What choices have I made that have taken me on a path; away from You?
When have I felt like a prodigal daughter and gone wandering in a desert?
How have I been blind to Your love?
Give thanks for something that feels like failure.

TRANSFORMED

Beloved,

“The steps of a woman are established by the Lord, when she delights in His way; though she may fall she should not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds her....Psalm 37:23-24

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Tell me your story.....

I'll tell you what love sees.....

DARKNESS

How have I felt trapped in darkness?
In what way have my free will choices created a battle that prevents me from resting in Christ's arms?

Flame of God's Light

Beloved,

³⁻⁶ Every time you cross my mind, I break out in exclamations of thanks to God. Each exclamation is a trigger to prayer. I find myself praying for you with a glad heart. I am so pleased that you have continued on in this with us, believing and proclaiming God's Message, from the day you heard it right up to the present. There has never been the slightest doubt in my mind that the God who started this great work in you would keep at it and bring it to a flourishing finish on the very day Christ Jesus appears. MSG Phillipians 1:3-6

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Tell me your story.....

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Obedient to the Call

In Christ, I am...

Forgiven Ephesians 1:7 *His Child* John 1:2 *Free* Romans 8:2 *Loved* Colossians 3:12

Made new 2Corinthians 5:17 *Joint heir with Christ* Romans 8:17 *Set apart* 1Corinthians 1:30

A citizen of heaven Philippians 3:20 *Lacking nothing* Philippians 4:9

Which of these truths are most difficult for me to believe?

What is the barrier to my claiming God's truth?

How do these truths enable me to faithfully walk the path, laid before me, with obedience?

ABUNDANCE

Beloved,

And we all, with veiled face, Beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3:16-18 MSG

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I'll tell you what love sees.....

Luke 7:36-50 *Blessed are you as you weep on your knees....*

With perfume and tears washing over My feet.....

Mark 10:46-52 *Blessed are you, beggar, hopeless and blind....*

Calling for mercy when I'm passing by...

Matthew 14, Luke 9,
Mark 6, John 6

Blessed are you, shaking your head at two tiny fish

And some bread

John 8:1-11

And blessed are you as you tremble and wait

For the first stone thrown at your sinful disgrace

Tell Me your story, show Me your wounds

I'll show you what Love see when Love looks at you.

Hand Me the pieces, broken and bruised...

And I'll show you what Love sees when Love sees you.

Matthew 14:22-33

*Blessed are you, walking on waves to find yourself sinking
when you look away....*

Matthew 8:2-4

*Blessed are you, leper, standing alone,
the fear on their faces is all that you've known*

Luke 21:1-4

Blessed are you, lonely widow who gave your last shiny coin

To Yahweh

Matthew 26, Mark 14, Luke 22

Blessed are you with your silver and lies

Kissing the One who's saving your life

*Tell Me your story, show Me your wounds
Hand Me the pieces, broken and bruised*

*And I'll show you what Love sees when Love looks at you
And I'll show you what Love sees when Love looks at you*

Isaiah 49:1,16
Psalm 139:13-16

*I see what I made in your mother's womb
And I see the day I fell in love with you
I see your tomorrows, nothing left to chance
I see My Father's fingerprints*

I see your story....

You see the struggle, you see the shame

I see My name written on every beautiful page

I see the reason I came

I came for your story, I came for your wounds

To show you what Love sees when I see YOU!

Imagine that when you came here this weekend,
Jesus was standing here in this room.

Do you recognize Him?

Are you so consumed by your daily life or
are you so poor in spirit
that you walked right by Him?

Did you miss that He is present?

Where is your focus?
What has blinded your vision?

What has been screaming in your ears
that has caused you to accept being deaf?

What has crippled your ability to stand with Him?

What has silenced you
to point of becoming mute
rather than boldly asking for His grace?

Glorify the Lord by your life!

Love one another John 13:34

Pray for one another James 5:16

Forgive one another Colossians 3:13

Bear with one another Galatians 6:2

Accept one another Romans 15:7

Serve one another Galatians 5:13

Speak truth to one another Ephesians 4:25

Be hospitable to one another 1Peter 4:19

Be at peace with one another Mark 9:50

Beloved,

I have longed to speak with you. This is our personal prayer book for this weekend where we write to each other what we've longed to convey from our hearts.

On the left side pages, write to me your story of what is going on in your heart. Tell me your worries, tell me for whom you are praying, ask for what you need and the desires of your heart. Recall the blessings you have been given through my grace.

On the right side pages, record what you hear me saying to you through our quiet time together. I also speak through what you read in my Word. Sometimes I whisper messages of love, comfort, truth and insight through your sisters gathered here.

Through this give and take of thoughts, feelings and prayers you will come to know that you truly are MY Beloved.

Love,

Jesus

