

Gates Elizabeth

From: prayersatwork@googlegroups.com on behalf of Prayers At Work
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Sent: Friday, December 11, 2009 2:06 PM
To: prayersatwork@googlegroups.com
Subject: [PRAYERS AT WORK] Dec 14-18, 2009

Monday, December 14, 2009 -- (Meditation: Matthew 11:28-30) God, it's that time of year when we feel stressed and pulled in many directions, especially mothers. They listen to their children ask for everything in every toy department . . . they feel the pressure to attend every holiday party . . . the temptation to eat rich holiday food . . . the need to find that perfect gift for everyone . . . the expectation to decorate the house like House Beautiful . . . the responsibility to drive the children to all their parties, pageants and plays . . . the necessity to write all the thank-you notes, and return the food platters . . . and the exhaustion of trying to make it all look easy. God, bless mothers with special grace this time of year. In Jesus' name.

Tuesday, December 15, 2009 -- (Meditation: Psalm 51:10-12) O God, sometimes I want belief without relationship. I want to believe in You without praying to You. I want to "be religious" without studying Your Word. I want to give my mind's consent without my heart's attention.
O God, I see what I'm doing. Forgive me when I am focused on Me, and not totally yielded to You in eternal victory. Through Jesus Christ, my Lord.
Amen.

Wednesday, December 16, 2009 -- (Meditation: Romans 12:3-5) God, I believe you call all Christians to full-time ministry. I believe this means much more than just making decisions between right and wrong.
I believe it is much more nuanced and complicated -- like balancing the interests of customers, employees, and shareholders as respected and interdependent partners. The media focus on differences, leaving us in uncomfortable tension. God, help us to balance the needs of all of our stakeholders. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Thursday, December 17, 2009 -- (Meditation: John 15:5) Gracious God, slow my pace and soften my heart this Christmas. Keep me from rushing through the season, but missing the Way . . . from decorating the tree, but missing the Light . . . from wrapping the gifts, but missing the Gift. God, still my soul to await the birth of Jesus on a silent night.
Help me to live a simple life in a world of complexity. . . to feel unity with others in a world divided . . . to have a quiet faith in a world of shouting. You are the Vine; I am the branch. Help me to abide in You, and bring forth Your fruit by loving and serving others. Through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Friday, December 18, 2009 -- (Meditation: Psalm 95:1-7) "God, I praise You for Your mighty power, that made the mountains rise, that spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies. I praise You for Your wisdom, that ordained the sun to rule by day -- the moon shines full at Your command, and all the stars obey. God, Your wonders are displayed, wherever I turn my eyes -- whether I survey the land I tread, or gaze upon the skies." (Isaac Watts, 1715)

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