Monday, May 18, 2009 -- (Meditation: John 1:29) God, my prayer today is one of my favorite hymns: "Just as I am, without one plea, but that Your blood was shed for me; and that You bid me come to You, O Lamb of God, I come. Just as I am, and waiting not, to rid my soul of one dark blot; to You whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come. Just as I am, though tossed about, with many a conflict, many a doubt; fightings and fears, within, without, O Lamb of God, I come. Just as I am, You will receive, will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; because Your promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come. I come." Amen.

Tuesday, May 19, 2009 -- (Meditation: Matthew 22:37-38) Dear God, I want to love You with all my heart, my soul, my mind and my strength. Take from me all pride when I assume that what I've accomplished is self achieved. Give me a humble mind and heart. May I acknowledge any wrong I have spoken or done. May I seek Your forgiveness with a repentant heart. May I know the grace of living each day in humility, in forgiveness, in Your light, and in Your way. Through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Wednesday, May 20, 2009 -- (Meditation: Colossians 3:1-2) God, I want for my family the best of everything: music lessons and Little League, the best education, Bible school and soccer practice, zoo visits and video games, basketball tickets and swimming lessons, vacations and cookouts, and the list goes on. God, all these things are good, but when our schedules are overcrowded and we become angry and resentful, help us to see that we are missing the balance and meaning of Your will for our lives. Forgive our feverish ways. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Thursday, May 21, 2009 -- (Meditation: Isaiah 53:3) God, Your Son was "despised and rejected, a Man of Sorrows, and acquainted with grief." This is what draws us near to Him. This means that when I am rejected and suffer, when I am acquainted with grief, His nail-pierced hands reach out to me. He knows. He understands. He redeems. God, thank You for the Man of Sorrows. Into His hands I commit my life, my all. Amen.

Friday, May 22, 2009 -- (Meditation: Proverbs 3:5-6) O God, sometimes I think I can run my life better than You can. But every time I try, I fall victim to doubts, tensions, and emptiness. Sometimes I think You will provide less for me than I can. But every time I try it on my own, I fall victim to greed, guilt, and negative thinking. When I DO trust You, then You replace doubt with faith, tension with peace, and emptiness with meaning. When I DO trust You, then You replace greed with generosity, pride with humility, and guilt with forgiveness. I've tried time and time again to run my life, and it hasn't worked. So here I am, again, back like a child returning home. My heart yearns for life in You. I pray that I may walk Your path today, not mine. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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