

## ASCENDING LIFE – CANADA

Spiritual Resource Journal Jan 2018

“Be still and know that I am God”  
(Psalm 46:10)

Let us take a moment to be still and to simply acknowledge “the Great I Am”.  
Breathe deep, acknowledge Him as Creator, as holder of this single moment in time.  
He is the One who sustains, the One who brings peace. God.

You were not meant to spend a single moment outside the presence of God.  
Your heart becomes restless, anxious when you forget him.  
But, when you stop, when you listen for the sound of His heart, yours melts.  
In the stillness, and to your great awe, you find He is as gentle as He is mighty,  
and as forgiving as He is just.

*Now rest in the quiet stillness that comes from the presence of the One who loves you most.*

### BE YOU

Christ came that you may have life and that you may have it to the full, So, be you!  
Be the you God had in mind when He said, “This. Him, Her. They are the one I want in My life.  
Heaven needs them. Their brothers and sisters need them.  
You fill a need. You fill a place in the heart of God that only you can fill. But, when you pull into  
your shell, when you hide from the world, creation becomes less than intended.  
So remember that you belong!

You are uniquely you on purpose and FOR a purpose. God’s purpose.  
And His definition of you is the ONLY definition that matters,  
because it is the only definition that is true

### GOD WANTS YOU TO BLOOM

Consider the lilies. Consider the Son. Consider the unhindered relationship.  
A simple experience with no expectations. No need to prove worth or purpose.  
No need to make up for lost time. The lilies. They simply are.  
They are a lovely example of a life dependent on God,  
of a life unhindered by expectations or the curious eyes of onlookers.  
They do not struggle to know or to understand the God who feeds their roots or shines the sun.  
They simply accept His presence and experience His touch on their lives.  
Their very existence is a praise and a testament to His.

*“May you consider the lilies and experience simply, the unhindered presence of God!”*

*“See how the lilies of the field grow.” (Matthew 6:28)*

## BLESSED ASSURANCE

Faith in God leads to faithfulness in every area of your life.  
In faith you acknowledge the truth about God and live life accordingly.  
Your confidence lies in the unfailing reality of God's existence.  
His promises, and in His never-giving up-faithfulness to His creations

Faith does the right thing because it's the right thing without regard to self or circumstances.

Its' answer to God is always, Yes.

A steady walk in faith develops stability of feelings and actions. You cease to be the double-minded self of your past and become, instead, an anchor in an otherwise unsteady world.

To sceptics faith can only smile, because proof is etched in the heart.  
Faith knows the promises of God are true.

"Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see" (Hebrews 11:1)

## A GREAT HOPE

Today, the world is broken. Man set himself in the place of God and the human race ran amok.  
Disaster overwhelms and you shake your fist at God. You ask "Why have you allowed this evil?"  
"Why have you allowed this pain?"

Humanity has been unfaithful and often accuses God of negligence:  
but He is forever faithful and in His great compassion you find your hope!

You find your hope in the light of Christ- in the light of the Cross.  
In the light of a God willing to suffer your consequences.  
In your deepest of deeps you know, great is his unfailing love!  
*His plan is perfect. Even now, He is making things all right!*

"Because of His great love, we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail"

## A PLACE IN HIS STORY

It is no accident that you long for a purpose in your life.  
You were created for a purpose.  
You were created as part of God's story.

He uses purpose to build individual relationships with His children,  
and He uses purpose to build the collective nature of His church.

Don't believe for a moment that your role is insignificant.  
Everyone is significant. Every life matters.

Let us pray for understanding and discernment.  
Let us pray for and about the desires of our hearts,  
trusting they are placed there by the God who knows more about us,  
And our eternity than we can ever begin to understand.

More than anything, let us trust the Creator. Trust His omniscience.  
The story is His and one day, let us see its perfection.

"We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,  
which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10"

## POUR OUT YOUR HEART

Pour your heart to God. Pour out your joys, your fears, your thoughts of every kind.  
Pour out to His praises, adoration of His name.

The praises you sing, your heart cries, may feel inadequate. But what makes communion perfect to God's heart is the heart from which it flows, the motivation from which it is born.

And when you pour out to God, He pours out to you. He makes your worship a perfect offering. He purifies. He restores. He never, ever rejects a heart that is seeking his own.

Let us not hold back our relationship with Him! He will lead the way.

“Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,  
for it is God who works in you to will and act according to His good purpose.

Philippians 2:12-13

## A CHANGED HEART

Others observe the truth about God in the sincere heart change of believers,  
A changed heart is inviting. It treats all people with kind respect.  
Its own confidence and acceptance lies in an intimate relationship with God.

The heart turned to God isn't looking for approval of others, yet it heaps approval and love to those in need of grace, its life an overflow of daily worship to God.

You are accepted. You are loved. You are wanted.  
These are words every heart wait to hear.  
These are words Christ whispers to your soul.

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.” Psalm 51:10

## SING A NEW SONG

In each believer there is a new song waiting to be sung.  
A song that sings in sweet communion from your heart to God's.  
A song of life redeemed and life renewed.

These life songs move us from one moment to the next.  
We are walking out our salvation, learning what life with Christ means,  
and our lives, our songs of praise and appreciation,  
are made new and fresh as we go.  
Each new understanding brings a new verse to the life we live.  
Every life lesson enhances our song.  
Together our songs sing a sweet chorus to our King.  
His plan is perfect His vision infinite.

***“May we sing a “New Song” for a New Year!”***

*“Sing to the Lord, a new song! Psalm 98:1*

*Excerpts “Break Time” Author: Amanda Cowles*

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## THE SPIRIT OF HOLINESS

There is something about Christmas that leads us to take a closer look at our relationships- both the stronger ones and the weaker ones.

May we in the beginning of this brand new year,  
think about where we are in life and where we are headed!

Are we moving forward in our careers, with our families and in our faith? We ask ourselves:  
"Who am I? What kind of person am I becoming? What person do I want to be?"

In examining our faith, an even more basic question is, "How can I be more like Jesus?"  
We all want to have the peace, the joy, and the knowledge of God's love that Jesus had.  
We all want to have the same up building effect on other people that He had.

*May we be holy, as Jesus is holy!*

*Let's ask how we can become holier this year,  
and let's ask the Holy Spirit to help us follow this path!*

*Holiness is not that far off. Holiness is at the heart of the Christian life. Jesus came not only to forgive sins. He came to make us a new creation, to give us power to live in the holiness and peace and purity that he has demonstrated.*

*At the core of holiness is being "set apart". May we set ourselves apart!*

*There are many passages that tell us that God has already set us apart and is asking us to set ourselves apart in the way we love one another, serve the needy and more importantly to set ourselves apart by welcoming his Holy Spirit into our hearts.*

*May we dedicate ourselves to achieving the Spirit of Holiness  
and to surrender to the Spirit and to the call of holiness!*

*May our eyes of our hearts be opened to the wonders of Jesus!*

*Let us seek the Holy Spirit, allow the Holy Spirit to give his grace, his power, his gifts of wisdom and revelation, and his consolation, that we may grow in holiness!*

*With the blessings of the Holy Spirit, we recognize that Jesus had opened the door to holiness for us and we now can walk through that door, as we are filled with his Spirit.*

*We can reflect the love and mercy of Jesus to every one we meet.*

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