



# Daily Reflections

**May 28, 2018**

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## Scripture

### **1 Peter 1: 3-9**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope  
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,  
to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading,  
kept in heaven for you  
who by the power of God are safeguarded through faith,  
to a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the final time.  
In this you rejoice, although now for a little while  
you may have to suffer through various trials,  
so that the genuineness of your faith,  
more precious than gold that is perishable even though tested by fire,  
may prove to be for praise, glory, and honor  
at the revelation of Jesus Christ.  
Although you have not seen him you love him;  
even though you do not see him now yet you believe in him,  
you rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,  
as you attain the goal of faith, the salvation of your souls.

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## Our Scripture Reflection

Peter writes his letters to a Christian community in Asia Minor that had converted to the faith from Judaism. The community is surrounded by pagan Gentiles who are ridiculing and ostracizing them. How the Christians could

believe in a Savior who died a horrible death on a cross was absurd to the Gentiles. Peter reminds the struggling community that the faith into which they had been baptized was given to them at a great price and is worth more than pure gold. Even though they are being tested they must buck up and trust in the Lord's Grace to strengthen them. They are, after all, Jesus' Church. He promised to be with them until the end of time and He will.

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## **Food for your Journey**

When my sister and I were growing up it seemed like there was always something to cry about. There were no big reasons, mind you. We had a good life. No, the crying was mostly over two things — our feelings, which were extremely fragile back then, and change of any kind. How we hated change! Dad must have told us a hundred times, "You need to toughen up." Though he always said it lovingly, it seemed harsh to me. I didn't want to toughen up. I wanted the world to treat me softly.

Now as I raise a daughter of my own I find myself giving her the same advice because my dad was right. Life is hard. And if we're serious about living for God life can be particularly difficult. Jesus said, "In this world you will have trouble" (John 16:33 NIV). It should come then, as no surprise when we suffer for our faith. But too often we cry and complain instead of persevering in faith. Our feelings are too fragile and our expectations unrealistic. The goal of life is not comfort and ease and everything just the way we like it. The goal should be to follow Christ through the good and the bad. When things don't go our way we should learn to patiently endure and persevere, trusting that God has us right where we are for a reason. Maybe we just need to toughen up a little.

—Kari Myers, "Toughening up," The Link, January 2007.

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, Living my faith in You is not always easy because I am surrounded by many people including family members who do not believe in You. You are, however, the Way, the Truth and the Life. Help me to remain strong and faithful in my witness to You. By the way I live my life may others come to realize that there is no joy and peace apart from You. Amen