June 5, 2019

Scripture

John 17: 11-17
Lifting up his eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed, saying:
"Holy Father, keep them in your name
that you have given me,
so that they may be one just as we are one.
When I was with them I protected them in your name that you gave me,
and I guarded them, and none of them was lost
except the son of destruction,
in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled.
But now I am coming to you.
I speak this in the world
so that they may share my joy completely.
I gave them your word, and the world hated them,
because they do not belong to the world
any more than I belong to the world.
I do not ask that you take them out of the world
but that you keep them from the Evil One.
They do not belong to the world
any more than I belong to the world.
Consecrate them in the truth.
Your word is truth.
As you sent me into the world,
so I sent them into the world.
And I consecrate myself for them, so that they also may be consecrated in truth."

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**Our Scripture Reflection**

Even while knowing that His suffering and death would take place within 24 hours, Jesus focuses His prayer at the Last Supper table on His disciple rather than Himself. When we find ourselves feeling anxious or worried or ill, do we not focus on ourselves? Not so with Jesus. Everything about His life was for others, completely and to the end.

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**Food for your Journey**

What we call The Lord's Prayer is more properly called The Disciples' Prayer. Have you ever noticed that the perpendicular pronoun is missing from The Disciples' Prayer? I was reminded of this by a mailing from the Omaha Home for Boys (4343 N. 52nd St., Omaha, Neb. 68104).

You cannot pray the Lord's Prayer and even once say "I."

You cannot pray the Lord's Prayer and even once say "My."

Nor can you pray the Lord's Prayer and not pray for one another,

And when you ask for daily bread, you must include your brother.

For others are included ... in each and every plea,

From the beginning to the end of it, it does not once say "Me."

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**A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear God, Everything about Your Son was for others and never for Himself. Help me to grow beyond my self-concern and to focus instead on loving others. Amen