# Daily Reflections

# October 8, 2016

## Scripture

**Galatians 3:22-29**
Brothers and sisters:
Scripture confined all things under the power of sin,
that through faith in Jesus Christ
the promise might be given to those who believe.

Before faith came, we were held in custody under law,
confined for the faith that was to be revealed.
Consequently, the law was our disciplinarian for Christ,
that we might be justified by faith.
But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a disciplinarian.
For through faith you are all children of God in Christ Jesus.
For all of you who were baptized into Christ
have clothed yourselves with Christ.
There is neither Jew nor Greek,
there is neither slave nor free person,

there is not male and female;
for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants,
heirs according to the promise.

## Our Scripture Reflection

For Paul, the freedom he has received through his faith in Jesus Christ has made him a new person, united with all people and motivated to imitate Christ in his love for and service to others. What a spiritually refreshing thought!

## Food for your Journey

We have to give ourselves wholeheartedly to God, and if we fail, we must give ourselves again. We all need daily forgiveness for our sins and failures. But what matters is whether we want to be faithful -- faithful to the end of our lives. This means surrendering everything -- our self-will, our hopes for personal happiness, our private property, even our weaknesses -- and believing in God and in Christ. This is all that is asked of anyone. Jesus does not expect perfection, but he wants us to give ourselves wholeheartedly.

--J. Heinrich Arnold in Discipleship: Living for Christ in the Daily Grind, quoted in *Christianity Today*, January 11, 1999, 80.

## Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, May I always be inspired and motivated to serve others, especially the least in Your Kingdom. Amen.