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MEDITATE ON THIS:

Colossians 3:12-17

¹² So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. ¹⁴ Beyond all these things *put on* love, which is perfect bond of unity. ¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

"How to turn sorrow into joy"

To this day Ethiopia remembers the evangelist Philip as the man of God who preached the gospel to their first convert. We know him as the Ethiopian eunuch from Acts 8. This man was the treasurer of Queen Candace and a proselyte (a non-Jew who had converted to the Hebrew faith). My guess is that it was a prayer for insight into the Messianic passage (Isaiah 53) that brought Philip (sent by God) to his chariot to explain the passage to him. If you seek you will find! The gospel was preached and responded to. Both men went down into the water where Philip baptised this man-without-a-name into Christ, and he 'went on his way rejoicing' (Acts 8:39).

Of today's 110 million Ethiopians, 62% claim a connection to the Christian faith. If we were honest, we would admit that Ethiopia is basically off our radar of everyday consciousness. The average person I know would probably have a fair idea where it is on the African continent, but beyond vague memories of famine and civil war, not much else would come to mind.

Recently, I read an article that stated that 81 people were killed in riots. The gunning down of popular singer-songwriter and activist, Hachalu Hundessa, sparked an outbreak of violence and death. You would have to be a keen follower of international news to know that 81 souls were killed in those riots. 81 Ethiopian mothers wept for their babies lost to mob violence.

It is the Spirit of Christ who heals nations. Therein is hope. If one Bible study could plant the spiritual seeds that changed Ethiopia 2000 years ago, why can't we today? We must pray that specific joy felt by the royal treasurer can once again come to Ethiopia. Only then can sorrow be turned to joy.

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PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Niki Willemse (Colette's sister in South Africa): Please continue to pray for her and the family.

Anje Colvin (Celine's friend): Anje and her family moved to NZ from South Africa nine months ago and recently moved to Auckland. She has been trying hard to find a job. Please pray for her.

Dave Howell: Please pray for Dave who has not been feeling well.

Ethan van Aswegen (in South Africa): Ethan had blood tests and an MRI. Doctors will do another scan in 3 months' time to compare as there are a few white marks on the MRI, but they reckon it could just be scar tissue. He still continues with dialysis for his kidneys. Please continue to pray for him and the family, and that it is just scar tissue.

Brian Caitor (Matt's brother): Please keep Brian in your prayers. He is recovering from Chemo and adjusting to his new way of life.

Sandra Setters – Tricklebank

Lynda & family: Please keep praying for Lynda and the family.

Julie Christopherson (Lynda's friend): Please pray for Julie who is not doing well.

Betty Potgieter: Felicity's Mom is very frail. Please keep her in your prayers.

Daily Devotional by Dereck Beukes

May the Fatherly nature of God bring assurance to your soul. May you understand—on a much deeper level—how committed He is to you and your life. May Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and His victory over the grave and sin, compel you to believe that you're worth far more than your skewed perspective of yourself. May you simply look deeply into the cross of Christ, His Gethsemane and His final resignation to submit to His Father's will for our sake cause you to decide to believe that you're a priceless work of art. May the presence and the power of the Holy Spirit that resides within you inspire you to live a life yielded to His influence. May you be so sensitive to His movement that when He winces, you wince; when He moves, you move; when He pulls back, you pull back. May you grow to deeply enjoy your fellowship with God. He is for you and He loves you.



For the Lord God is our sun
and our shield. He gives us grace
and glory. The Lord will withhold
no good thing from those who do
what is right. O Lord of Heaven's
Armies, what joy for those who
trust in you.

Psalm 84:11-12



SEPTEMBER

- 01 Maryann Anacan
- 02 Hester Unkovich
- 07 Michal Fay
- 12 Jasmine Tavita

PRAYER REQUESTS?

ANY NEWS?

If you have any prayer requests or news to share, please send me an email: info@vintagerosecottage.co.za

Love Colleen de Steur