

First Week Prayer Units
Prayer Unit 9

Theme: Without the grace of Jesus, the consequence of the sin situation and my own personal conspiracy with evil would lead me away from God forever; even at this moment I am being saved from hell.

Grace: To ask for what I desire -- an ever-deepening awareness of God's merciful love for me.

By this time during the Spiritual Exercises journey, every prayer exercise becomes, in effect, a Repetition. One relates to each of these exercises according to one's need. Every exercise helps to unfold the various dimensions of the mystery of evil in the light of God's continuing protective love.

Prayer Texts:

- a) First Ex with the Triple Colloquy.
- b) Second Ex with the Triple Colloquy.
- c) Third Ex with the Triple Colloquy.
- d) Fourth Ex This is a special kind of exercise. Use pen and paper while you are praying. With God, write out a review or summary of what has gone on in your experience during the past few weeks. Over the past few weeks, you have been noticing the high and low points in your experiences. Now pay attention to and note down the nuances, the less obvious orientations that you may have missed. Then bring them to God with the Triple Colloquy (640
- e) Fifth Ex Repetition of any part of the above;
- f) John 10:7-18 in which Jesus expresses his merciful love with the image of himself as the good shepherd.

Darkness is not only the loss of sight, it is the invitation to go by touch.
-- David Howells

Additional Readings for reflection outside prayer times:

Is 59:1-21	As a sinner I come before God recognizing the web of deceit in my own life. I am helpless and I believe God's promise
Ezk 36:25-32	to pour clean water over me and give me a heart of flesh
Jn 13:1-9	which God does through the ministry of Jesus who washes my feet.
Jn 21:15-19	Thus Jesus forgives me as he forgives Peter.
Eph 2:1-10	God loved us so much and was generous with mercy ... we are saved by God's grace ... we are truly God's handiwork created to lead a life of good deeds.
Ps 51	Have mercy on me, O God. In your goodness create in me a clean heart.
Ps 136	For your great love and mercy endure forever.
Lk 1:46-55	Song of Mary ... my being proclaims the greatness of my God who is mighty and has done great things for me.