

# Preparing the Soil

## For week beginning on November 28

Being in relationship with God is more than just a once-a-week event. Just like any relationship, regular communication is needed. I challenge you to create a daily routine to prepare your hearts for God's word. This is something that can be done in less than 20 minutes per day. It just requires a time and place of quiet (before the day begins or after the day has ended or even on the train coming home from work).

**Instructions:** - Monday through Saturday follow each step. Don't forget that the Bible is not a newspaper – it is God's word. Reading the same psalm for six days gives God a chance to speak to you with the same words but in six different days (and, potentially, six different circumstances).

### I. Invocation (Pray this each day):

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### II. Psalm 71:1-6 (Read this each day):

### III. Daily Scripture Readings

<b>Monday</b>	Jeremiah 1:4-10
<b>Tuesday</b>	Isaiah 58:1-5
<b>Wednesday</b>	Isaiah 58:6-9a
<b>Thursday</b>	Isaiah 58:9b-14
<b>Friday</b>	Matthew 25:31-46
<b>Saturday</b>	Luke 13:10-17

### IV. Prayers

<b>Monday</b>	For those in need of healing from <i>Yellow Pages</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	For those serving in military and vets
<b>Wednesday</b>	For our shut-ins and caregivers and families in grief
<b>Thursday</b>	For our leaders in government and church
<b>Friday</b>	For family members and neighbors
<b>Saturday</b>	For yourself

**V. Reflection**      Silent and/or written

**VI: Hymn: Will You Let Me Be Your Servant, ELW 659 (Sing each day):**  
(For music, use this link.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=32jWTAIHxgE>

1 Will you let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant, too.

2 We are pilgrims on a journey,  
we are trav'lers on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.

3 I will hold the Christ-light for you  
in the nighttime of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.

4 I will weep when you are weeping;  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
till we've seen this journey through.

5 Will you let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant, too.

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### VII: Benediction (Spoken each day):

Lord, allow me your servant to go in peace. I have experienced your salvation which you have prepared for everyone. Uphold me as I seek to serve in your name. Amen.

The general idea and often the words of the benediction are taken from: *A Guide to Prayer* by Rueben Job and Norman Shawchuck, (The Upper Room: Nashville, 1983).