

In Thy Presence



*Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence
is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are
pleasures for evermore. Psalm 16:11*

Welcome to *In thy Presence Magazine.*

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In Thy Presence seek to encourage young women to follow in the ways of God, and to walk in his presence. The contents of this magazine reflects the desire to encourage, inspire and strengthen the hearts of readers in their relationship with the Lord.

Publication:

In Thy Presence is compiled by Rachel-Marie McPherson, and is published 4 times a year. My aim is to print these issues on time, but it doesn't always happen.

In thy Presence is a ministry, and therefore the Lord's will take priority, and I do this as he leads.

Contributions:

Please would you help me to encourage others by sending in contributions. Write what the Lord has been teaching you, something you read that has encouraged you, a poem you have written, or anything that would

inspire, bless, challenge or encourage others to walk with the Lord. We would certainly love to hear from older woman as well. You certainly have a large source of wisdom with which you can share from. Please accompany your contributions with your name, addresses and date of birth (older woman excepted☺) You may also send a photo, if you would like to have that printed with any articles you have sent in. (We ask to print these articles at our discretion) The thoughts expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of my family. We do generally try to select articles in which, although maybe not agreeing with everything expressed, the underlying principle is in accordance with our beliefs.

Reprinting and Copies:

You may photocopy articles for yourself or a friend. For all other use, we would appreciate

It if you contacted us first. If you need any extra copies of *In thy Presence* Please let us know and we will try to meet that need. We pray that the Lord will be glorified through this magazine and that you will be both blessed and encouraged.



We look forward to hearing from you!

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♥ Heart to Heart ♥

About the Editress:

My name is Rachel-Marie McPherson, and I am 24 years old. I love to spend time with my Saviour and to grow closer to Him each day. My desire is that you will be encouraged to do the same.

Dear Sisters,

Another several months have finished and it is again time to put together this issue of 'In Thy Presence' May this issue find you all well and encourage you in the Lord.

Thank you once again to all who have contributed for this issue. I once again feel blessed by your input.

In the past few weeks I have been reading through some of C.H. Spurgeon's sermons, and finding them very encouraging, and also challenging. One of the topics he speaks about is 'Our Lord's Question to the Blind men'

These seeking blind men were thoroughly persevering in consequence of being in earnest, for they "followed" Christ, and so continued to urge their suit. How did they manage to follow the movements of

the Lord? We do not know: it must have been very difficult, for they were blind, but they no doubt asked others the way which the Master had taken, and they kept their ears open to every sound. Doubtless they said, "Where is he? Where is Jesus? Lead us, guide us. We must find him." We do not know how far our Lord had gone, but we know this, that as far as he had gone they followed. They were so bravely persevering that having reached the house where he was, they did not stay outside waiting till he came out again, but they pressed into the room where he sat. They were insatiable for sight. Their earnest cries took him off from his preaching, he paused and listened while they said, "Thou Son of David, have mercy on us." Thus does perseverance prevail: no man shall be lost who knows the art of importunate prayer. If thou wilt resolve never to leave the gate of mercy till the porter opens to thee, he will assuredly unbar the door. If thou dost grasp the covenant angel with this resolve, "I will not let thee go except thou bless me," thou shalt come forth from

the place of wrestling more than a conqueror. A mouth open in never-ceasing prayer shall bring about eyes full vision of faith. Pray, therefore, in the darkness, even if there be no hope of light; for when God, who is light itself, moves a poor sinner to plead and cry out before him with the solemn intent to continue so to do till the blessing comes, he has no thought of mocking that poor crying heart. Perseverance in prayer is a sure sign that the day of the opening of the eyes is near.

With what simple faith the blind men came to Jesus, and oh that some of us might pursue him with the same determination, and seek him in prayer with the same faith that the blind men had. I was really challenged to seek him more earnestly with all my heart, soul, mind and strength, both in the word, and also in prayer. There is so much I need his help for, and great are the rewards of seeking him with all your heart!

May the Lord bless each one of you as you seek him with all of your heart.

Only by His Grace

The True Woman

“The True Woman’s rule for faith and practice is God’s Word. So being a true woman today means standing against cultural paradigm. A true reflection of redemption in our time demands critical thinking. The true woman must push everything through the grid of God’s Word. She must develop a biblical apologetic, or explanation, for every aspect of her life. She must think theologically in order to live faithfully. There is no room for carelessness.”

S. Hunt

JUST TRUST

“Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?” John 11:40

Mary and Martha could not understand what their Lord was doing. Both of them said to Him, “*Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.*” Back of it all, we seem to read their thought: “*Lord, we do not understand why you have stayed away so long. We do not understand how you could let death come to the man whom you loved. We do not understand how you could let sorrow and suffering ravage our lives when your presence might have stayed it all. Why did you not come? It is too late now, for already he has been dead four days!*”

And to it all Jesus had but one great truth: “*You may not understand; but I tell you if you believe, you will see.*”

Abraham could not understand why God should ask the sacrifice of the boy; but he trusted. And he saw the glory of God in his restoration to his love. Moses could not understand why God should keep him forty years in the wilderness, but he trusted; and he saw when God called him to lead forth Israel from bondage.

Joseph could not understand the cruelty of his brethren, the false witness of a perfidious woman, and the long years of an unjust imprisonment; but he trusted, and he saw at last the glory of God in it all.

Jacob could not understand the strange providence which permitted the same Joseph to be torn from his father’s’ love, but he saw the glory of God when he looked into the face of that same Joseph as the viceroy of a great king, and the preserver of his own life and the lives of a great nation.

And so, perhaps in your life. You say, "I do not understand why God let my dear one be taken. I do not understand why affliction has been permitted to smite me. I do not understand the devious paths by which the Lord is leading me. I do not understand why plans and purposes that seemed good to my eyes should be baffled. I do not understand why blessings I so much need are so long delayed.

Friend, you do not have to understand all God's ways with you. God does not expect you to understand them. You do not expect a child to understand, only believe. Some day you will see the glory of God in the things which you do not understand.

– J.H. McC

The Touch

"He touched her hand, and the fever left her."
He touched her hand as He only can.
With the wondrous skills of the Great Physician,
With the tender touch of the Son of man.

"He touched her hand, and the fever left her."
Oh, blessed touch of the Man divine!
So beautiful to arise and serve Him
When the fever is gone from your life and mine.

It may be the fever of restless serving
With heart all thirsty for love and praise,
And eyes all aching and strained with yearning
Toward self-set goals in the future days.

Or may be a fever of spirit anguish,
Some tempest of sorrow that calms not down,
Till the cross at last is in meekness lifted
And the head stoops low for the thorny crown.

Whatever the fever, His touch can heal it;
Whatever the tempest, His voice can still.
There is only rest as we seek His pleasure.
There is only rest as we choose His will.

And some day, after life's fitful fever,
I think we shall say, in the home on high,
"If the hands that He touched but did His bidding,
How little it matters what else went by!"

Ah, Lord, Thou knowest us altogether,
Each heart's sore sickness, whatever it be;
Touch Thou our hands! Let the fever leave us,
And so shall we minister unto thee!

-Anonymous

Overcoming Temptation:

As thy days, so shall thy strength be (Deuteronomy 33:25)

Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life. (James 1:12)

Consider him that endureth such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. (Hebrews 12:3)

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners, and purify your hearts, ye doubleminded. (James 4:8)

Every one of us shall give account of himself to God. (Romans 14:12)

Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call upon the Lord out of a pure heart. (2 Timothy 2:22)

God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap (Galatians 6:7)

Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. (2 Corinthians 7:1)

In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. (John 16:33)

Jesus said. . . If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth. (Mark 9:23)

Keeper thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen. (Deuteronomy 4:9)

Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good. . . . that it may minister grace unto the hearers. (Ephesians 4:29)

My God shall supply your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:19)

Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. (Hebrews 12:11)

He that **O**vercometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. (Revelation 21:7)

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. (Ephesians 6:11)

Quit you like men, be strong. (1 Corinthians 16:13)

Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (James 4:7)

Stand fast in one spirit, and with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel. (Philippians 1:27)

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. (1 Corinthians 10:13)

Unto us [are given] exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. (2 Peter 1:4)

Be **V**igilant: because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour. (1 Peter 5:8)

Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. (1 Peter 5:9)

Xhort one another daily, while it is called Today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. (Hebrews 3:13)

Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin. (Hebrews 12:4)

Be **Z**ealous therefore, and repent. (Revelation 3:19)

Editor's Notes: This is a valuable list for anyone to ponder when facing a particularly severe temptation. Why not copy and memorize it! *Taken from: The Christian Example*

Be Partakers of the Divine Nature.

According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might **be** partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust; And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

(2 Peter 1:3-8)

[As the believer yields to the Father, depends on the indwelling Christ, and walks in the Spirit, a life of grace will bear the fruit of these practical character traits:]

Be Silent when anger stirs your heart;

Don't speak that word that sends the dart
Or adds a burden to some soul
Add to your faith that self-control.

Be Patient when everything goes wrong

And Satan tries to steal your song.
Let the peace of God keep mind and heart,
And every needful grace impart.

Be Kind when folk don't understand

And friends misjudge on every hand.
“Let your yieldedness be known.”
Remembering that you're not your own.

Be Ready always to extend

A helping hand to foe or friend.
Jesus prayed for those whose hate
Caused Him to die without the gate.

Be Faithful; plough and sow the seed

By steady plod and loving deed.
Though others may not know the cost,
God knows your labour; 'tis not lost.

Be Joyful in the Lord; don't frown

Though all the world seems upside down.
Neither circumstances nor place
Makes any changes in His grace.

Be circumspect in all your walk

And chaste in all your thought and talk.
You live not for yourself alone,
But witness for the Lord your own.

Be watching; unceasingly watch and pray;

Be on your guard each passing day,
He's coming, coming very soon;
It may be midnight, morn, or noon.

Standing where the fire has been.

One of the first Gospel illustrations that ever made a real impression upon me was a simple story I heard a preacher tell when I was still quite young. It was of pioneers who were making their way across the prairies of North America. They travelled in covered wagons drawn by oxen, and progress was understandably slow.

One day they were horrified to note a long line of smoke in the west, stretching for miles across the prairie, and soon it was evident that the dried grass was burning fiercely and coming toward them rapidly. They had crossed a river the day before but it would be impossible to go back there before the flames would be upon them. One man understood what to do. He gave the command to set fire to the grass behind them. When a space was burned for them, the whole company moved onto it.

Then they waited. As the flames roared towards them, a little girl cried out in terror, "Are you sure we shall not all be burned?" The wagon train leader replied, "Have no fear, the flames cannot reach us here, for we are standing where the fire has burned!"

What a wonderful picture that is of the person who believes in Christ! Jesus said, "I came to give My life a ransom for many."

The fires of God's judgement that were meant for us, burned themselves out on Jesus. All who believe in Christ and have committed their lives to Him are safe forever, for they are standing where the fire has been.

-Tony Edwards.-

*Fear thou not; for I am
with thee; be not
dismayed; for I am thy
God: I will strengthen
thee; yea, I will help
thee; yea, I will uphold
thee with the right hand
of my righteousness.
Isaiah 41:10*

Formula for trials:

I am here **by God's appointment.**

He brought me here. It is by His will I am in this strait place and in that fact I will rest.

I am **in His keeping.**

He will keep me here in His love and give the grace to behave as his child

I am **under His training.**

He will make the trial of blessing, teaching me the lessons He intends for me to learn.

I am **for His time.**

In His good time, He can bring me out again-How and when, only He knows.

Never worry, never fear.

Never worry, never fear,
God is always near.
His children to Him are dear
And our prayers He'll always hear.

Never worry, never fear,
God is always near.
He will dry our every tear
And drive away every fear.

Never worry, never fear,
God is always near.
Although others may at us jeer,
God is always near.

-By Bethany Davies-

'Search the Scriptures'

John 5:39

The Greek word here rendered search signifies a strict, close, diligent, curious search, such as men make when they are seeking gold, or hunters when they are in earnest after game. We must not rest content with having given a superficial reading to a chapter or two, but with the candle of the Spirit we must deliberately seek out the hidden meaning of the word. Holy Scripture requires searching- much of it can only be learned by careful study. There is milk for babes, but also meat for strong men.

The rabbis wisely say that a mountain of matter hangs upon every word, yea, upon every title of Scripture. Tertullian exclaims, 'I adore the fullness of the Scriptures.' No man who merely skims the book of God can profit thereby; we must dig and mine until we obtain the hid treasure. The door of the word only opens to the key of diligence. The Scriptures claim searching. They are the writings of God, bearing the divine stamp and imprimatur- who shall dare to treat them with levity? He who despises them despises the God who wrote them. God forbid that any of us should leave our Bibles to become swift witnesses against us in the great day of account. The word of God will repay searching. God does not bid us sift a mountain of chaff with here and there a grain of wheat in it, but the Bible is winnowed corn – we have but to open the granny door and find it. Scripture grows upon the student. It is full of surprises. Under the teaching of the Holy Spirit, to the searching eye it glows with splendour of revelation, like a vast temple paved with wrought gold, and roofed with rubies, emeralds, and all manner of gems. No merchandise like the merchandise of Scripture truth. Lastly, the Scripture reveals Jesus: 'They are they which testify of Me'. No more powerful motive can be urged upon Bible readers than this: he who finds Jesus finds life, heaven, all things. Happy he who, searching his Bible, discovers his Saviour.

C. H. Spurgeon

The Washerwoman's Friend

In a very humble cot,
In a rather quiet spot,
In the suds and in the soap
Worked a woman full of hope,
Working, singing all alone
In a sort of undertone,
“With a Saviour for a friend,
He will keep me to the end.”

Sometimes happening along,
I have heard the semi-song,
And I often used to smile,
More in sympathy than in guile;
But I never said a word
In regard to what I heard,
As she sang about her Friend,
Who would keep her to the end.

Not in sorrow nor in glee,
Working all day long was she,
As her children, three of four,
Played around her on the floor;
But in monotones the song
She was humming all day long,
“With a Saviour for a friend,
He will keep me to the end.”

Just a trifle lonesome she,
Just as poor as poor could be;
But her spirits always rose
Like the bubbles in the clothes,
And though widowed and alone,
Cheered her with the monotone
Of a Saviour and a Friend
Who would keep her to the end.

I have seen her rub and scrub
On the washboard in the tub,
While the baby, sopped in suds,
Rolled and tumbled in the duds,
Or was paddling in the pools
With old scissors stuck in spoons,
She was humming of her friend
Who would keep her to the end.

Human hopes and human creeds
Have their roots in human needs,
And I would not wish to strip
From that washerwoman's lip
Any song that she can sing,
Any hope that song can bring,
For a woman had a Friend,
Who did keep her to the end.

-Author Unknown-

Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him: and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. Isaiah 55:6, 7

