



Building^{the}



MOSAIC



Encouragement ^{of} the ReLief Worker

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Building the Mosaic: Encouragement for the Relief Worker
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WORLD RELIEF 



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The ReLief Worker's Prayer

God of heaven and earth,
not even a sparrow falls without your knowledge.
You give generously.
You provide faithfully.
Your love is without end.

Your ways are not my ways,
so help me to trust in You and not in my own efforts.

Be near me.
Work through me.
Enable me to give generously.
Empower me to serve faithfully.
Give me abundant love to share.

Amen.



Psalm 102:17

He will answer the prayer of those who don't have anything.
He won't say no to their cry for help.

FOREWORD

Two weeks after the World Trade Center bombing in New York, I had the opportunity to visit one of our church partners that was serving people impacted by the bombing. The scene was a typical disaster response picture: commodities in one room, demands for assistance at the door, other ministries calling for help and the phone ringing nonstop.

Susan, one of the church's social workers, was hosting us. Orienting volunteers and ministry partners was just a small part of Susan's job, and we were not the first group that she was hosting that day. She gave us an account of the church's response to the disaster. She told us about the people they had taken care of, the survivors' conditions and the needs they had.

I couldn't help but ask her the question that I have been asking relief workers for years. "Susan," I asked, "what about you? Who is ministering to you as you help people in crisis?"

Her answer was an eloquent silence. Her eyes filled with tears, which spilled over as she answered quietly, "No one." She turned away to answer the ringing phone, apparently embarrassed that she had broken down in the middle of responding to a crisis.

Susan did not need to be ashamed. In fact, breakdown, fatigue and frustration are normal feelings, even for the most seasoned relief workers. Unfortunately, as they spend hours, days and months serving people impacted by disaster, relief workers often experience a sense of loneliness, inadequacy, impotence and fatigue. Eventually, many of them just give up, feeling that they have failed.

The good news for Susan, and for thousands of relief workers like her, is that they are not alone. God provides a refuge to everyone, not only those who have been affected by disaster or crisis situations. God is also available to those who work on his behalf touching the lives of the hurting!

Look at Moses, for example. In the book of Numbers, we read that he was charged with caring for the people of Israel during their journey through the wilderness. His concern was that the people were increasingly dissatisfied with their circumstances. God provided them with safety and enough food, but they tired of traveling and eating the same thing every day. They told Moses that they would rather return to slavery in Egypt than continue to live under his leadership.

Moses' reaction to the demands of the people he was serving is typical at the point of burnout. He felt frustrated, lonely and impotent. He cried out to God, "Why have you brought this trouble on me? Why aren't you pleased with me? Why have you loaded me down with the trouble of all these people? The

load is too heavy for me.” As a result, Moses was ready to give up. In desperation, he cried “just put me to death right now” (Numbers 11).

Or look at Elijah. In 1 Kings we read that Elijah defeated hundreds of foes and saw God work a miracle. However, he was exhausted and he experienced the misgivings and vulnerability that often follow big victories. Even though he knew God’s power, he became intimidated by the threat of one powerful person who wanted him dead.

Elijah’s response to burnout was similar to what Moses felt. First he was afraid and ran away. Then, he felt lonely. He thought, “I’m the only one left. And they are trying to kill me.” Elijah’s sense of loneliness and fear pushed him to the point of giving up. He cried out to God “I have had enough.... Take my life” (1 Kings 19).

It is encouraging to know that even the heroes of the Bible had times of frustration, loneliness, inadequacy and defeat. More importantly, it is encouraging to know that in the middle of their frustration and sense of defeat, God was willing to heal and touch them. Throughout the Bible, God responded to His exhausted, frustrated servants with love. God listened patiently to them so that they could express their feelings. He also showed them that he was near them (Numbers 11:10–20, 1 Kings 19:1–11). And, very importantly, in both cases God ministered to them by drawing them back to his healing presence!

This is the purpose of *Building the Mosaic*. Our prayer is that when you face the pressure of your work with people impacted by disasters, disease or poverty, you will always find a way back to God’s presence. He will comfort you.

Remember, you do not need to be a hero. It is natural to feel overwhelmed by the needs around you. It is understandable to be frustrated by the chaos that follows a disaster or crisis situation. It is okay to feel inadequate for the demands of the situation. In those times, just pause, talk to God and read his word, the Bible. Come to him whenever you need to (both Elijah and Moses had to express the same issue more than once to get it off of their chests!). God’s presence will help and strengthen you as you help people in crisis.

Gustavo A. Crocker, PhD
Senior Vice-President, Programs
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Introduction

Building the Mosaic is a relief worker's companion. The book is a tool to help you make something beautiful and whole out of the brokenness around you. It's an aid to help you seek God's presence in the midst of disaster and crisis situations. As a relief worker, you aren't always surrounded by friends or a supportive community, so making time to connect with God becomes even more important. Doing so can help you remain healthy in the midst of whatever comes your way.

This book is your space to work out your thoughts about what you're experiencing and how God is at work in the world. God promises to be near. Let *Building the Mosaic* help you to seek him daily.



How to use this book:

Reference Building a Perspective, [pages \(A1–A4\)](#)

Building the Mosaic also includes a scripture reference. Building a Perspective suggests verses that respond to a number of issues you may face as you work in disaster relief. The verses and references are arranged by subject.

Share the Full Life, [pages \(A5 & A6\)](#)

Building the Mosaic includes an invitation to a full life in Christ. Use it as a reminder of what God wants to do in and through you. Share it with people who have yet to experience God's healing.

Enjoy the Readings [\(pages 1–41\)](#)

Building the Mosaic readings draw from the stories and wisdom of the Bible. They have been chosen because they explore some of the experiences common to relief work. The readings show human and divine responses to tragedy. They speak of mercy and generosity. They encourage. They challenge perspectives. They are a call to action.

Respond in Your Words [\(all available journal space\)](#)


Building the Mosaic includes blank pages for your thoughts. Respond to the readings. Write or sketch your responses to the situations, people and places you encounter.

Read the Psalms [\(pages 55–241\)](#)


Building the Mosaic contains the entire Psalms: an alternately celebrating, raging, cursing and praising journey of the soul and its conversations with God. Use the Psalms as a comfort. Use them to express your anger, hopes, fears and thankfulness.

About the Bible Passages in this Book


Building a Perspective is a collection of verses arranged by subject. The verses can help meet the challenges every relief worker faces. Like much of the Bible, they challenge readers to develop a new perspective. The verses are a way to continue thinking about various topics, but the selection doesn't list every verse that may be helpful. As it says in 2 Timothy 3:16–17, *God has breathed life into all of Scripture. It is useful for teaching us what is true. It is useful for correcting our mistakes. It is useful for making our lives whole again. It is useful for training us to do what is right. By using Scripture, a man of God can be completely prepared to do every good thing.* So use **Building a Perspective** as a place to begin.



The Readings are from passages of the Old and New Testaments of the Bible. The passages were selected because of their relevance to disaster and crisis situations. The location of the passage within the Bible is listed by the name of the book, followed by the chapter number and the verse. Psalm 16:1, for example, is the first verse of the 16th chapter of Psalms.



Psalms is a book of biblical poetry that explores some of life's major themes: friendship, love, suffering, justice, mercy, death, wisdom and people's relationship with God. Many of the poems are written to God. They express joy, fear and anger, too. Many psalms include the word *Selah*, which is an ancient word of praise to God. Other unfamiliar words are thought to describe the way that the psalms were read or sung aloud.



All Bible text included in this book is from the NIV, the reader's version of the NIV.

Building a Perspective

Verses to Read in Challenging Times

Anger

- James 1:19–20 My dear brothers and sisters, pay attention to what I say. Everyone should be quick to listen. But they should be slow to speak. They should be slow to get angry. A man's anger doesn't produce the kind of life God wants.
- Psalm 4:4 (page 57)
- Psalm 37:8 (page 96)
- Luke 10:38–42 (Reading 14)

Anxiety

- 1 Peter 5:7 Turn all your worries over to him. He cares about you.
- Psalm 4:1 (page 57)
- Psalm 4:8 (page 58)
- Psalm 71:1–3 (page 139)
- Philippians 4:4–9 (see Worried)

Encouragement

- Romans 15:4 Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us. The Scriptures give us strength to go on. They cheer us up and give us hope.
- Psalm 107:28–31 (pages 192–193)
- 2 Thessalonians 2:16–17 (Reading 19)
- Hebrews 10:23–25 (Reading 2)

Envy

- Proverbs 14:30 A peaceful heart gives life to the body. But jealousy rots the bones.
- Psalm 49:16–20 (page 113)
- James 3:14–18

Faith

- James 1:5–6a If any of you need wisdom, ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone. He doesn't find fault. But when you ask, you must believe. You must not doubt.
- Matthew 14:22–33
- Mark 11:22–24

Fear

- John 14:27 “I leave my peace with you. I give my peace to you. I do not give it to you as the world does. Do not let your hearts be troubled. And do not be afraid.”
- Psalm 27:1 (page 83)
- Psalm 56:3–4 (page 121)
- Psalm 73:28 (page 144)

Hope

- Romans 15:13 May the God who gives hope fill you with great joy. May you have perfect peace as you trust in him. May the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with hope.
- Psalm 121 (page 216–217)
- Romans 5:1–5

Love

- John 3:16 “God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.”
- Psalm 36:5–10 (page 95–96)
- Romans 8:38–39
- Ephesians 3:18–20
- 1 Corinthians 13:1–7

Overcoming

- Luke 1:37 “Nothing is impossible with God.”
- Psalm 46:1–3 (page 109–110, Reading 1)
- Psalm 91:14–16 (page 170)
- Matthew 17:20–21
- Romans 8:28

Patience

- Colossians 1:11 We want you to be very strong, in keeping with his glorious power. We want you to be patient. Never give up. Be joyful.
- Psalm 40 (page 101–102)
- Ecclesiastes 3:1–8
- 1 Corinthians 13:4
- Galatians 5:22–25

Perseverance

- James 1:12 Blessed is the man who keeps on going when times are hard. After he has come through them, he will receive a crown. The crown is life itself. God has promised it to those who love him.
- 2 Corinthians 1:6–7
- Colossians 1:9–12
- 2 Timothy 2:11–13

Temptation

- Mark 14:38 “Watch and pray. Then you won’t fall into sin when you are tempted. The spirit is willing. But the body is weak.”
- Psalm 31:1–5 (page 87)
- Psalm 102:1–2 (page 179)
- 1 Corinthians 10:13
- Hebrews 2:18

Unrest

- Colossians 3:15 Let the peace that Christ gives rule in your hearts. As parts of one body, you were appointed to live in peace. And be thankful.
- Psalm 62:5–8 (page 127)
- Psalm 91:1 (page 169)
- Mark 6:30–32 (Reading 9)

Weakness

- Ephesians 6:10 Finally, let the Lord make you strong. Depend on his mighty power.
- Psalm 28:6–9 (page 85)
- 2 Corinthians 12:7–10
- Psalm 146 (page 237–238)

Worry

- Philippians 4:6–7 Don't worry about anything. Instead, tell God about everything. Ask and pray. Give thanks to him. Then God's peace will watch over your hearts and your minds because you belong to Christ Jesus. God's peace can never be completely understood.
- Psalm 55:22 (page 120)
- Matthew 6:25–34

THE FULL LIFE

We live in a shattered world. Whether we've experienced natural disaster, famine, war or just life's disappointments, we feel the effects of not being right with God. We feel the brokenness.



It was never God's desire for us to live shattered. His hope for us is to live in peace with him, with each other and with the creation he's given us. But people have always struggled to live as God intended. As the Bible states in Psalm 14 and Romans 3, "No one is right with God, no one at all. No one understands. No one trusts in God. All of them have turned away."

For this reason, Jesus was sent by God to live on earth and to give his life to heal what's been shattered. As it says in Romans 3:24–25, *The free gift of God's grace makes all of us right with him. Christ Jesus paid the price to set us free. God gave him as a sacrifice to pay for sins. So he forgives the sins of those who have faith in his blood.*

Jesus lived a full life. He healed the lame. He gave sight to the blind. He shared God's truth with people. He encouraged the brokenhearted. He spent time with the people he loved, and also alone with God.

Jesus said, "I have come so that they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way" (John 10:10). A full life. God offers us a life of wholeness. He wants to put together the broken pieces, to perform the work of healing in our lives.

Through Jesus, God offers to make something good out of our lives. He offers forgiveness for the things that are not right between us. He gives us the hope of changed lives, and the gift of full life. He wants to put together the broken pieces, to perform the work of healing in our lives and to construct a living mosaic for his pleasure and our amazement.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all of you who are tired and are carrying heavy loads. I will give you rest. Become my servants and learn from me. I am gentle and free of pride. You will find rest for your souls. Serving me is easy, and my load is light" (Matthew 11:28–30).



Jesus does more than simply save us from the brokenness we encounter daily. He works in us, making us bearers of light and full life everywhere we go. The Bible says this about accepting his invitation, *Say with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord."* Believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead. Then you will be saved. With your heart you believe and are made right with God. With your mouth you say that Jesus is Lord. And so you are saved (Romans 10:9–10).

In 2 Corinthians 5:17 it is written, *Anyone who believes in Christ is a new creation. The old has gone! The new has come!*

Welcome the new creation! Embrace the full life available through Christ! He uses those who choose to become his people to bring his message of hope and encouragement to everyone.



"In the same way, let YOUR
light shine in front of
others. Then they will see the
GOOD THINGS YOU DO.
And they will praise
YOUR Father
who is in heaven."

Matthew 5:16



Readings



Reading 1

Psalm 46:1-3

God is our place of safety. He gives us strength.

He is always there to help us in times of trouble.

The earth may fall apart.

The mountains may fall into the middle of the sea.

But we will not be afraid.

The waters of the sea may roar and foam.

The mountains may shake when the waters rise.

But we will not be afraid.

Reading 2

Hebrews 10:23-25

Let us hold firmly to the hope we claim to have. The One who promised is faithful.

Let us consider how we can stir up one another to love. Let us help one another to do good works. Let us not give up meeting together. Some are in the habit of doing this. Instead, let us cheer each other up with words of hope. Let us do it all the more as you see the day coming when Christ will return.

what encourages me to love?

how can I encourage others to love?

Reading 3

Romans 12:9–18

Love must be honest and true. Hate what is evil. Hold on to what is good. Love each other deeply. Honor others more than yourselves. Never let the fire in your heart go out. Keep it alive. Serve the Lord.

When you hope, be joyful. When you suffer, be patient. When you pray, be faithful. Share with God's people who are in need. Welcome others into your homes.

Bless those who hurt you. Bless them, and do not call down curses on them. Be joyful with those who are joyful. Be sad with those who are sad. Agree with each other. Don't be proud. Be willing to be a friend of people who aren't considered important. Don't think that you are better than others.

Don't pay back evil with evil. Be careful to do what everyone thinks is right. If possible, live in peace with everyone. Do that as much as you can.

Reading 4

Matthew 5:38–48

“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye must be put out for an eye. A tooth must be knocked out for a tooth.’ But here is what I tell you. Do not fight against an evil person.

“Suppose someone hits you on your right cheek. Turn your other cheek to him also. Suppose someone takes you to court to get your shirt. Let him have your coat also. Suppose someone forces you to go one mile. Go two miles with him.

“Give to the one who asks you for something. Don’t turn away from the one who wants to borrow something from you.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor. Hate your enemy.’ But here is what I tell you. Love your enemies. Pray for those who hurt you. Then you will be sons of your Father who is in heaven.

“He causes his sun to shine on evil people and good people. He sends rain on those who do right and those who don’t.

“If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Even the tax collectors do that. If you greet only your own people, what more are you doing than others? Even people who are ungodly do that. So be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.”

how do I go the extra mile?



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Reading 5

Luke 10:25-28

One day an authority on the law stood up to put Jesus to the test. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to receive eternal life?”

“What is written in the Law?” Jesus replied. “How do you understand it?”

He answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your strength and with all your mind.’ And, ‘Love your neighbor as you love yourself.’”

“You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do that, and you will live.”

Reading 6

Luke 10:29–37

But the man wanted to make himself look good. So he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho. Robbers attacked him. They stripped off his clothes and beat him. Then they went away, leaving him almost dead. A priest happened to be going down that same road. When he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. A Levite also came by. When he saw the man, he passed by on the other side too.

But a Samaritan came to the place where the man was. When he saw the man, he felt sorry for him. He went to him, poured olive oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey. He took him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins. He gave them to the owner of the inn. ‘Take care of him,’ he said. ‘When I return, I will pay you back for any extra expense you may have.’

“Which of the three do you think was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by robbers?”

The authority on the law replied, “The one who felt sorry for him.”

Jesus told him, “Go and do as he did.”

Reading 7

John 13:3–10a

Jesus knew that the Father had put everything under his power. He also knew he had come from God and was returning to God.

So he got up from the meal and took off his outer clothes. He wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a large bowl. Then he began to wash his disciples' feet. He dried them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

He came to Simon Peter.

“Lord,” Peter said to him, “are you going to wash my feet?”

Jesus replied, “You don't realize now what I am doing. But later you will understand.”

“No,” said Peter. “You will never wash my feet.”

Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you can't share life with me.”

“Lord,” Simon Peter replied, “not just my feet! Wash my hands and my head too!”

Jesus answered, “A person who has had a bath needs to wash only his feet. The rest of his body is clean. And you are clean.”

Reading 8

John 13:12-17

When Jesus finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes. Then he returned to his place.

“Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord.’ You are right. That is what I am. I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet. So you also should wash one another’s feet. I have given you an example. You should do as I have done for you.

“What I am about to tell you is true. A servant is not more important than his master. And a messenger is not more important than the one who sends him. Now you know these things. So you will be blessed if you do them.”

who washed my feet today?
whose feet can I wash?



Reading 9

Mark 6:30-32

The apostles gathered around Jesus. They told him all they had done and taught. But many people were coming and going. So they did not even have a chance to eat.

Then Jesus said to his apostles, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place. You need to get some rest.” So they went away by themselves in a boat to a quiet place.

Reading 10

James 4:13-15

Now listen, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city. We will spend a year there. We will buy and sell and make money.” You don’t even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? It is a mist that appears for a little while. Then it disappears. Instead, you should say, “If it pleases the Lord, we will live and do this or that.”

how does my perspective of time affect my work?



Reading 11

Acts 3:1–10

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple. It was three o' clock in the afternoon. It was the time for prayer. A man unable to walk was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful. He had been that way since he was born. Every day someone put him near the gate. There he would beg from people going into the temple courtyards.

He saw that Peter and John were about to enter. So he asked them for money. Peter looked straight at him, and so did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" So the man watched them closely. He expected to get something from them.

Peter said, "I don't have any silver or gold. But I'll give you what I have. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk." Then Peter took him by the right hand and helped him up. At once the man's feet and ankles became strong. He jumped to his feet and began to walk. He went with Peter and John into the temple courtyards. He walked and jumped and praised God. All the people saw him walking and praising God. They recognized him as the same man who used to sit and beg at the temple gate called Beautiful. They were filled with wonder. They were amazed at what had happened to him.

Reading 12

2 Kings 4:1-7

The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha. She said, “My husband is dead. You know how much respect he had for the LORD. But he owed money to someone. And now that person is coming to take my two boys away. They will be come his slaves.”

Elisha replied to her, “How can I help you? Tell me. What do you have in your house?”

“I don’t have anything there at all,” she said. “All I have is a little olive oil.”

Elisha said, “Go around to all of your neighbors. Ask them for empty jars. Get as many as you can. Then go inside your house. Shut the door behind you and your sons. Pour oil into all of the jars. As each jar is filled, put it over to one side.”

The woman left him. After that, she shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her. And she kept pouring. When all of the jars were full, she spoke to one of her sons. She said, “Bring me another jar.”

But he replied, “There aren’t any more left.” Then the oil stopped flowing.

She went and told the man of God about it. He said, “Go and sell the oil. Pay what you owe. You and your sons can live on what is left.”

Reading 13

Matthew 18:1–5

At that time the disciples came to Jesus. They asked him, “Who is the most important person in the kingdom of heaven?”

Jesus called a little child over to him. He had the child stand among them. Jesus said, “What I’m about to tell you is true. You need to change and become like little children. If you don’t, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Anyone who becomes as free of pride as this child is the most important in the kingdom of heaven.

“Anyone who welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me.”

Reading 14

Luke 10:38–42

Jesus and his disciples went on their way. Jesus came to a village where a woman named Martha lived. She welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary.

Mary sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was busy with all the things that had to be done. She came to Jesus and said, "Lord, my sister has left me to do the work by myself. Don't you care? Tell her to help me!"

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered. "You are worried and upset about many things. But only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better. And it will not be taken away from her."

how can I choose what is better?



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Reading 15

Matthew 6:1-4

“Be careful not to do ‘good works’ in front of others. Don’t do them to be seen by others. If you do, your Father in heaven will not reward you.

“When you give to needy people, do not announce it by having trumpets blown. Do not be like those who only pretend to be holy. They announce what they do in the synagogues and on the streets. They want to be honored by others. What I’m about to tell you is true. They have received their complete reward.

“When you give to the needy, don’t let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. Then your giving will be done secretly. Your Father will reward you. He sees what you do secretly.”

Reading 16

I Thessalonians 5:12–18

Brothers and sisters, we ask you to have respect for the godly leaders who work hard among you. They have authority over you. They correct you. Have a lot of respect for them. Love them because of what they do. Live in peace with each other.

Brothers and sisters, we are asking you to warn those who don't want to work. Cheer up those who are shy. Help those who are weak. Put up with everyone. Make sure that nobody pays back one wrong act with another. Always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else.

Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Give thanks no matter what happens. God wants you to thank him because you believe in Christ Jesus.

how can I live peacefully with people?
how can I be thankful no matter what happens?



Reading 17

1 Peter 4:8-11

Most of all, love one another deeply. Love erases many sins by forgiving them. Welcome others into your homes without complaining.

God's gifts of grace come in many forms. Each of you has received a gift in order to serve others. You should use it faithfully. If you speak, you should do it like one speaking God's very words. If you serve, you should do it with the strength God provides. Then in all things God will be praised through Jesus Christ.

Give him the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Reading 18

Matthew 7:7-12

“Ask, and it will be given to you. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you. Everyone who asks will receive. He who searches will find. The door will be opened to the one who knocks.

“Suppose your son asks for bread. Which of you will give him a stone? Or suppose he asks for a fish. Which of you will give him a snake? Even though you are evil, you know how to give good gifts to your children. How much more will your Father who is in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

“In everything, do to others what you would want them to do to you. This is what is written in the Law and in the Prophets.”

what am I seeking and asking for?



Reading 19

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father loved us. By his grace God gave us comfort that will last forever. The hope he gave us is good.

May our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father comfort your hearts. May they make you strong in every good thing you do and say.

Reading 20

Matthew 5:3–12a

“Blessed are those who are spiritually needy.

The kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

Blessed are those who are sad.

They will be comforted.

Blessed are those who are free of pride.

They will be given the earth.

Blessed are those who are hungry and thirsty for what is right.

They will be filled.

Blessed are those who show mercy.

They will be shown mercy.

Blessed are those whose hearts are pure.

They will see God.

Blessed are those who make peace.

They will be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who suffer for doing what is right.

The kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

“Blessed are you when people make fun of you and hurt you because of me. You are also blessed when they tell all kinds of evil lies about you because of me. Be joyful and glad. Your reward in heaven is great.”

how are the people around me blessed?
how am I blessed?

