



Jesus Christ, our All in all
CrossTalk's 25th Anniversary

4 - 10 Oct, 2020

Faith and Life

**'I have come that they may have life,
and that they may have it more abundantly'** John10:10b

'let us run with endurance the race that is set before us' Heb 12:1c

- † We are called to do everything through Christ. *'Jesus said to him, 'I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me'* Jn 14:6
- † Queen Esther decided to approach her husband the King to plead for her people relying fully on the Lord **(Est 4)**
 - She carried full responsibility and believed Mordecai when he said, *'Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?'* Est 4:14b
 - She had no clue what to say to the king but she knew the Lord will guide her
 - She asked for prayer and fasting
 - She took action without knowing what to say nor what to do
- † Let us encourage each other to endure to the end and say as Saint Paul said in 2 Tim 4:7-8a, *'I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day'*

**'let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us'
Heb 12:1b**

- † The weight corresponds to the sin in all its styles
 - breaking the Ten Commandments
 - worrying
 - being taken by the pleasures of this world **(Mt 13:1-23)**
- † *'And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God'* Rom 12:2

'looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith' Heb 12:2a

- † Our faith is in the Word, Jesus Christ, through Whom all things were made
- † Christ is *'the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last'* Rev 22:13

**'who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God'
Heb 12:2b**

- † The cross did not remove the joy from Christ, since He was looking at the glory of the resurrection
- † *'For the wonderful qualities of faith are two: that it both accomplishes great things, and suffers great things; and regards the suffering as nothing'* Saint John Chrysostom
- † Through faith we are able to say as King David said in Psalm 23, *'Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever'*
 - Just as the apostles lived the Kingdom of Heaven whether they were under persecution or not, so are we to live the Kingdom of Heaven despite our circumstances
 - The circumstances change but our anchor is in the Everlasting

'Faith is the art of holding on to things in spite of your changing moods and circumstances' C S Lewis

- † We are all called to make the same journey and being Christlike is our destination
- † True, the route is different for each. It is the same as, although we are all created in the image and likeness of God, yet each individual carries different fingerprints
- † The guidelines for our life with Christ are clearly given and we must discover our personal route in freedom. We are responsible for the journey with Christ, in Christ and through Christ

Bibliography

1. Unless otherwise noted, all Biblical passages referenced are from the New King James Version

Legend

 Refers to mandatory readings

Verse to memorize

'Therefore be imitators of God as dear children' Ephesians 5:1

In my Prayer and Faith Autobiography Book

God acts

† Christ came to earth to give us Life in all its fullness (*Jn 10:10*)

My reaction

† Are my eyes on Christ even in the midst of the hard circumstances?

† Am I living WWJD?

During the coming week, let us pray expectantly

1. seeking the Lord's will to be done in Lebanon
2. for CrossTalk to find a locale
3. for David, Gisele, Habib and Karim
4. to become more of saints and less of sinners
5. to seek the Lord in every word I say, every act I do and every thought I think
6. to help in building His Kingdom by building His Church on earth
7. to deny ourselves, carry our cross and follow Him
8. to thank Him for creating us and each one around us, on His image and likeness, and choosing us to reveal His splendor
9. to all the sick, namely Marie
10. to all those in prison
11. to the unity of the Christians
12. to one another to be honest and not lack integrity
13. to put all that we have in the Lord's hands trusting His management
14. to all the Christians who are being persecuted, and to those who are persecuting them
15. to all families, that the Lord unites the parents together in His Name and stops all fights
16. to the situation in Lebanon, the region, and the whole world

During this coming week, we will lift the Maronite Church in prayer

الصلاة الربانية

أبانا الَّذِي فِي السَّمَوَاتِ
لِيَتَقَدَّسَ اسْمُكَ
لِيَأْتِ مَلَكُوتُكَ
لِتَكُنْ مَشِيئَتُكَ
كَمَا فِي السَّمَاءِ
كَذَلِكَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ
أَعْطِنَا خُبْرَنَا كِفَافَتَ يَوْمِنَا
وَاعْفُرْ لَنَا ذُنُوبَنَا وَخَطَايَانَا
كَمَا نَحْنُ نَعْفِرُ
لِمَنْ خَطِيئَتِي إِلَيْنَا
وَلَا تُدْخِلْنَا فِي التَّجَارِبِ
لَكِنْ نَجِّنَا مِنَ الشَّرِّيرِ
لَأَنَّ لَكَ الْمَلِكِ وَالْقُوَّةَ وَالْمَجْدَ
إِلَى أَبَدِ الْأَبَدِينَ
أَمِينَ

قانون الإيمان

نُؤْمِنُ بِإِلَهٍ وَاحِدٍ، أَبِ ضَابِطِ الْكَلِّ
خَالِقِ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ، كُلِّ مَا يُرَى وَمَا لَا يُرَى
وَبِرَبِّ وَاحِدٍ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ،
ابْنِ اللَّهِ الْوَحِيدِ
الْمَوْلُودِ مِنَ الْأَبِ قَبْلَ كُلِّ الدَّهْرِ
إِلَهٌ مِنْ إِلَهٍ، نُورٌ مِنْ نُورٍ، إِلَهٌ حَقٌّ مِنْ إِلَهٍ حَقٍّ
مَوْلُودٌ غَيْرٌ مَخْلُوقٌ
مَسَاوٍ لِلْأَبِ فِي الْجَوْهَرِ
الَّذِي بِهِ كَانَ كُلُّ شَيْءٍ
الَّذِي مِنْ أَجْلِنا نَحْنُ الْبَشَرِ وَمِنْ أَجْلِ خَلَاصِنَا
نَزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ
وَتَجَسَّدَ مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ وَمِنْ مَرْيَمِ الْعِذْرَاءِ
وَصَارَ إِنْسَانًا
وَصُلِبَ عَنَّا عَلَى عَهْدِ بِيلاطسَ الْبِنطَني
تَأَلَّمَ وَمَاتَ وَثُبِرَ
وَقَامَ فِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّالِثِ كَمَا جَاءَ فِي الْكُتُبِ
وَصَعِدَ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ
وَجَلَسَ عَنِ يَمِينِ اللَّهِ الْأَبِ
وَأَيْضًا يَأْتِي بِمَجْدٍ عَظِيمٍ
لِيُنْذِرَ الْأَحْيَاءَ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ
الَّذِي لَا فَنَاءَ لِمُلْكِهِ
وَنُؤْمِنُ بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ
الرَّبِّ الْمُحْيِي
الْمُنْبِتِّقِ مِنَ الْأَبِ وَالْإِبْنِ
الَّذِي هُوَ مَعَ الْأَبِ وَالْإِبْنِ
يُسَجَّدُ لَهُ وَيُمَجَّدُ
النَّاطِقِ بِالْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَالرَّسَلِ
وَبِكَنِيسَةٍ وَاحِدَةٍ، جَامِعَةٍ، مَقْدَسَةٍ، رَسُولِيَّةٍ
وَنَعْتَرِفُ بِمَعْمُودِيَّةٍ وَاحِدَةٍ لِمَغْفُورَةِ الْخَطَايَا
وَنَتَرَجَّى قِيَامَةَ الْمَوْتَى وَالْحَيَاةَ الْجَدِيدَةَ فِي الدَّهْرِ الْآتِي
أَمِينَ