November 18, 2020

WEDNESDAY NOON ONLINE PRAYER RCF

"One thing that has encouraged me, as I have wrestled with such questions in my own life, is the way God used Moses' rod, a stick of wood....God "so used a stick of wood" can be a banner cry for each of us. Though we are limited and weak in talent, physical energy and psychological strength, we are not less than a stick of wood. But as the rod of Moses had to become the rod of God, so that which is me must become the me of God. The Scripture emphasizes that much can come from little if the little is truly consecrated to God. There are no little people and no big people in the true spiritual sense, but only consecrated and unconsecrated people." Francis Schaeffer, No Little People

Come Holy Spirit, gather with us.

Come Holy Spirit, alter us.

Come Holy Spirit, form Christ in us.

(ask the Holy Spirit to ready you to pray and to

visit us with his aid and encouragement)

"Set me free from my prison that I may praise your name." (Psalm 142:7)

Lord Jesus Christ, your Scriptures assure that where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom.

Liberate me from myself!

Apparently, the Spirit of the Lord is not wielding near as much influence as you would like, nor as I would. I am not free. Folks around me are not free. It appears that we are all shackled in ways that chafe, degrade, and deform us as image bearers.

Liberate me from myself!

I praise you for this memorable line that King

David once cried out to you. I join my voice to his and would honor you by counting on you to demolish the hold that a million nasty masters, many of whom we have submitted ourselves to, have on us.

Liberate me from all that binds me!

When you are around it is good news for those who are not in their right mind, who have been "bruised and broken by the fall", and who do not have enough.

Speak good news to my heart!

I am asking you to be around today, in my life and in the lives of those for whom I now pray:

"Set me free from my prison that I may praise your name." (Psalm 142:7)

Lord, the apostle suggested that all things were lawful but not all beneficial...and that he

would not be mastered by anything. We have wittingly and unwittingly permitted ourselves to be mastered by plenty. Driven by my nagging insistent claim to myself, I easily let even good things become main things.

Set me free from every addiction, every thing I think I cannot live without, every ounce of whining, griping, and complaining that emerges because I believe I know better than my Master.

"Set me free from my prison that I may praise your name."

(Spend a few moments praying for yourself and those you know who are dealing with addictions of some sort like overeating, work, pornography, alcohol, complaining, drugs, shopping, exercise, gossip...where the relationship with some created thing has taken a destructive turn for the worse)

Jesus please set us free so that joy and praise may result in the lives of liberated captives!

(Pray for liberation and repair for those bound by sickness, both mental and physical:

Think about those who have chronic pain, fatigue, and various health ailments. And some are struggling with various mental maladies like depressions, anxiety, bipolarity, and the like. Let's pray that there'd be sustaining grace for each minute of distress but that there'd also be come liberation from the captivity of these sicknesses, to be replaced with flourishing health.)

Set these vulnerable, discouraged, confused, and wearied souls free so that they may praise your name.

Lord, I implore that you would set my church family at RCF and me free from our self-patriotism.

Set us free to love!

Liberate us from preferring ourselves to everyone else. Let our community of faith be filled with folks willing to disadvantage themselves for the advantage of others.

Set us free to serve!

Grant us such emancipation from bias in our own favor that we'd be free to serve others, be generous with our words and lives, and be spared that nagging sense that we are in constant competition with those around us.

Set me free from my prison that I may praise your name.

Set me free from my prison that I may

praise your name.

Set me free from my prison that I may praise your name.

Lord, let me carry this security of your liberating presence with me into all the day's circumstances so I will not foolishly offer myself to be mastered by anything that didn't make me, save me, or die for me.

I lift up my soul to you.

Let all my words, actions, and feelings bring you praise, esteem, and joy today. In Christ's name I ask it. Amen.