



# Prayers Anchored in the Gospel of John

## John 3:16-17

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

\* Merciful Lord, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

## \* The Collect

Collecting your thoughts so you can focus  
on God.

Book of Alternative Services, p.353

[www.anglican.ca/resources/liturgicaltextsonline/](http://www.anglican.ca/resources/liturgicaltextsonline/)

## John 3:16-17 (NIV)

- \* <sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
- <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

\*Scripture

- \* This is a time when you will want to meditate on the section of the passage (3:16-17) throughout the day.
- \* You might choose to memorize a verse, or imagine that you are one of the characters.
- \* Let the passage sink deep into your soul.



\* **Meditation**

## God's Only Son and Gen 22

“The pathos of those words ‘only Son’ should remind the interpreter of the pathos in the story of Abraham when he was told by God to take his son, his ‘only son Isaac,’ and sacrifice him at Moriah (Gen. 22:2). Christian salvation has been very costly because it cost God his Son. Therefore one does not truly enter the process of salvation unless one recognizes the incalculable cost and accepts the implications of that cost in one’s life.”

Gerald L. Borchert, *John 1-11: The New American Commentary*, vol. 25a, 183

“Abraham has many servants. Why did [God] not command him to offer up one of these? It was because [Abraham’s] love would not have been revealed by a servant. **His [only] son**, therefore, was necessary so that Abraham’s love might be revealed.

There were likewise [other] servants of God, but he did not show his love toward his creatures through any of these but rather through his Son, through whom his love for us might be proclaimed....”

*Ephrem the Great, Commentary on Tatian’s Diatessaron 21.7, Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture series, John 1-10, vol. IVa, 126*

 **Meditation**

# I'M FOREVER GRATEFUL

\* You did not wait for me to draw near to You,  
But You clothed Yourself with frail humanity.  
You did not wait for me to cry out to You,  
But You let me hear Your voice calling me.

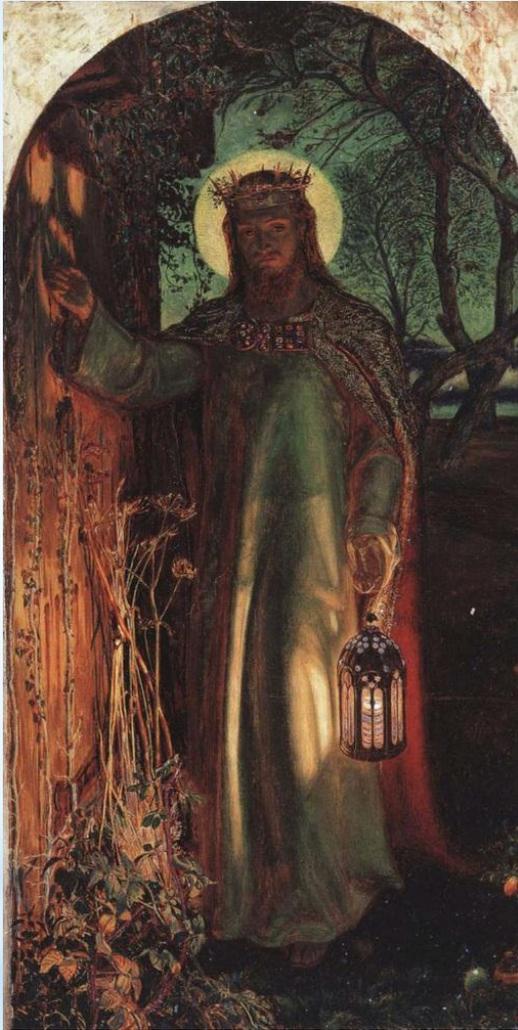
## *Chorus:*

\* And I'm forever grateful to You.  
I'm forever grateful for the cross;  
I'm forever grateful to You  
That You came to seek and save the lost.



- \* What is the Lord Jesus speaking to you today?
- \* Is there any resistance? How is God prompting you to surrender to his living Word?
- \* What actions will you take today to live in this truth?

\* Prayer



\* Let us pray for our unbelieving friends that they may believe in God's Son, that they may not perish but be saved.

\* Prayer

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,<sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”

Ephesians 3:20

 **Blessing**