

To Ponder: Iliā Delio, OSF "ten evenings with God"

God delights in creation and loves each of us with a personal love. Prayer, therefore, is God's desire to breathe in me, to be the spirit of my life, to draw me into the fullness of life. When I pray – when I breathe with God – I become part of the intimacy of God's life. The Franciscan theologian, Saint Bonaventure, wrote in his Soliloquy, "God is the One who is closer to you than you are to yourself." Prayer is recognizing the intimate in-dwelling of God in our lives, the One who remains faithful in love even when the world around us may fall apart. The author of the Second Letter to Timothy writes that "if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful-for he cannot deny himself."

(2 Timothy 2:12-13). . .

Life in God should be a daring adventure of love but often we settle for mediocrity. We follow the daily practice of prayer but we are unwilling or, for various reasons, unable to give ourselves totally to God. To settle on the plain of mediocrity is to settle for something less than God, which leaves our hearts restless and unfulfilled. We may seek the will of God as if trying to find a lost coin but we give up too easily. If we desire the will of God, then we must be willing to risk in love. Prayer is that dynamic, life-giving relationship with God by which we grow deep in God's word, strong in God's grace, and free in God's love to dream with God the unimaginable.

Reading 1 Samuel 2: 1-6a

You make me strong and happy, Lord.
You rescued me.
Now I can be glad
and laugh at my enemies.
No other god is like you.
We're safer with you
than on a high mountain.
I can tell those proud people,
"Stop your boasting!
Nothing is hidden from the Lord,
and he judges what we do."
Our Lord, you break the bows of warriors,
but you give strength
to everyone who stumbles.
People who once had plenty to eat
must now hire themselves out
for only a piece of bread.
But you give the hungry more
than enough to eat.
A woman did not have a child,
and you gave her seven,
but a woman who had many was left with none.
You take away life, and you give life.

Sharing...

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...

Breathe Johnny Diaz

Alarm clock screaming bare feet hit the floor
It's off to the races everybody out the door
I'm feeling like I'm falling behind, it's a crazy life
Ninety miles an hour going fast as I can
Trying to push a little harder trying to get the upper hand
So much to do in so little time, it's a crazy life
It's ready, set, go it's another wild day
When the stress is on the rise in my heart I feel You say just

Breathe, just breathe
Come and rest at My feet
And be, just be
Chaos calls but all you really need
Is to just breathe

Third cup of joe just to get me through the day
Wanna make the most of time but I feel it slip away
I wonder if there's something more to this crazy life
I'm busy, busy, busy, and it's no surprise to see
That I only have time for me, me, me
There's gotta be something more to this crazy life
I'm hanging on tight to another wild day
When it starts to fall apart in my heart I hear You say just

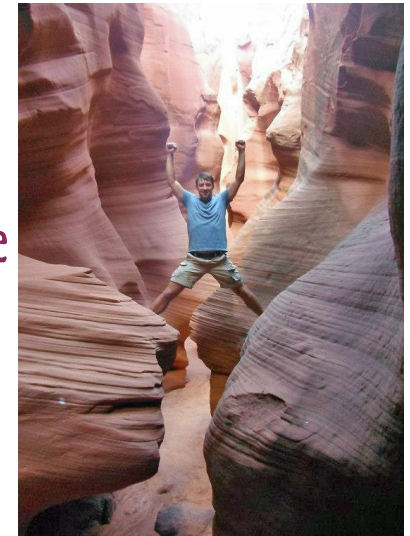
Is to take it in fill your lungs
The Peace of God that overcomes
Just breathe
Let your weary spirit rest
Lay down what's good and find what's best
Just breathe

Thank You For Joining Us!

Prayer Leader: Peggy Gerovac
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Our prayer is characterized
by silence ~

Be still and know that I am God!

In that silence we listen for a new word.
God is present in all our lives.
God cares for us, and
our life experiences are a source
of deepening knowledge of God and self.

Inspired by God's Word in the silence
we share from our hearts.