

## *Open The Eyes Of My Heart Lord* *Todd Galberth*

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord  
Open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You  
I want to see You (repeat)

To see You high and lifted up  
Shinin' in the light of Your glory  
Pour out Your power and love  
As we sing holy, holy, holy

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord  
Open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You  
I want to see You (repeat)

To see You high and lifted up  
Shinin' in the light of Your glory  
Pour out Your power and love  
As we sing holy, holy, holy (repeat)

Holy, holy, holy  
We cry holy, holy, holy  
You are holy, holy, holy  
I want to see you

Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy  
You are holy, holy, holy  
I want to see you (repeated)

*Sharing...*

*a word....*

*a phrase...*

*a reflection*



## *Surrender with an* *Open Heart*



Photo by Ginny Schiros



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

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## To Ponder

*Inner Way* by Joseph J. Allen

When disintegration and fragmentation disrupt our lives, when the dark times are upon us, when we or our loved ones experience illness, broken relationships or even death, our first inclination is to flee the situation. We need others who will bear witness to the eternal truth: that even deeper communion can emerge from the fragmentation of what used to be. Inner spiritual transformation is brought about when one's heart remains open to God's grace, which ever seeks to enter it. We are urged to keep an open heart in the face of fragmentation. Job is an example of one who kept his heart open. No matter how badly we may be broken, we can identify with him. Abandoned, dejected, isolated and accused, he eventually beheld God's glory. Never did Job curse or deny God. He was in pain and crisis- fragmented -and he knew it. So did his wife and friends. But Job refused to close his heart during the dark times. The ultimate image of facing dark times is found in the cross and resurrection of Christ. Our individual crosses can't be by-passed or denied. We enter into our depths in a state of fragmentation but in seeking transformation, we shift our "center" from our depths to the depths of the compassionate God we encounter within. God will use our own brokenness in the dark times to produce the transformation we see- but only if we surrender and are willing to let him.

## Reading

*Meditations of the Heart* by Robert Thurman

(esteemed theologian and spiritual teacher to Martin Luther King, Jr.)

The central element in communion with God is the act of self-surrender.

The symbol of my prayer this day is the open heart. It is most natural for me to think of prayer in terms of the open hand.

My needs are so great and often so desperate that there seems to be nothing besides my own deep urgency. I must open my heart to God.

These things, deep within, I must trust with the full awareness that more important even than self-realization is the true glorifying of God. Somehow I must make God central to me and in me, over and above the use to which I wish or need to put His energy and His power.

I surrender myself to God without any conditions or reservations.

I shall not bargain with God. I shall not make my surrender piecemeal but I shall lay bare the very center of me, that all of my very being shall be charged with the creative energy of God.

Little by little, or vast area by vast area, my life must be transmuted in the life of God.

As this happens, I come into the meaning of true freedom and the burdens that I seemed unable to bear are floated in the current of the life and love of God.