

Open Up Both Your Eyes

It's In Everyone Of Us

Song by David Pomeranz - Sung by John Denver

It's in everyone of us
To be wise
Find your heart
Open up both your eyes,
We can all know everything
Without ever knowing why,
It's in everyone of us
By and by

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Prayer Leader:

Betsy Nero

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Leslie Fehling



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.

Renew · Refresh · Refocus

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To Ponder:

Alfie, The Christmas Tree John Denver

Did you ever hear the story of the Christmas tree?
Who just didn't want to change the show
He liked living in the woods and playing with squirrels
He liked icicles and snow
He liked wolves and eagles and grizzly bears
And critters and creatures that crawled
Why bugs were some of his very best friends
Spiders and ants and all
Now that's not to say that he ever looked down
On a vision of twinkling lights
Or on mirrored bubbles and peppermint canes
And a thousand other delights
And he often had dreams of tiny reindeer
And a jolly old man in a sleigh
Full of toys and presents and wonderful things
And a story of Christmas day
Oh, Alfie believed in Christmas alright
He was full of Christmas cheer
All of each and every day
And all throughout the year
To him it was more than a special time
Much more than a special day
It was more than a beautiful story
It was a special kind of way
You see some folks have never heard a jingle bell ring
And they've never heard of Santa Claus
They've never heard the story of the Son Of God
And that made Alfie pause
Did that mean that they'd never know of peace on earth
Or the brotherhood of man
Or know how to love, or know how to give
If they can't, no one can
You see, life is a very special kind of thing
Not just for a chosen few
But for each and every living, breathing thing
Not just me and you
So in your Christmas prayers this year
Alfie asked me if I'd ask you
Say a prayer for the wind and the water and the wood
And those who live there too

Reading:

Restoring Awareness Joyce Rupp

Come, show us how you are dwelling in those places of
our lives where we have forgotten to welcome you.
Come, take us to the place where you are moving us
toward change and deeper relationship with you.
Come, shake free whatever keeps us from accepting your
invitation to be transformed.
Come, strengthen our faith, cultivate our hope,
and widen our love.

Come, draw us into the stillness essential for an alive
and open awareness of your presence.
Come, keep us mindful of the larger world, one in urgent
need of our compassion and dedicated care.
Come, be a healing presence for those who suffer, and
those for whom we have promised to pray.
Come, our minds and hearts are alert, ready to
welcome you home.

Holy One, awaken our hearts.
Quiet our minds.
Wrap a mantle of mindfulness around every
part of our days.
We want to welcome you with joy and focus
on your dwelling place. Amen.

Sharing...

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...