SEED THOUGHTS
for
DAILY MEDITATION

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2011
**INTRODUCTION**

You become what you adore

“Tell me what you adore and I will tell you what you are. If you adore gossip, your face will wear the mask of a gossip. If you adore money, the pound sign will darken your brow and shape your handclasp. If you adore landscapes and sunsets, tranquility will be expressed in your gaze and your voice. If you adore Jesus and look up to him long and often, you will take on the aspects of divinity…Come to know the Carpenter of Nazareth. As he becomes real to you through the words he spoke and the report of his deeds on earth, his Presence and Power will be transforming you. You will walk with a new dignity…your motions will be graceful and relaxed because you have yielded to the controlling guidance of that inner Light. Your countenance will radiate Love, and your features will be softened in that radiance until you appear as you really ARE.”

Glenn Clark, *Windows of Heaven*, p.26

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The Apostle Paul asserts, “Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.” Romans 8:9.

Here we are faced with the practical difficulty…How are we to become possessed of the Spirit of Christ? Many desire it ardently, but the obstacles within and without seem insurmountable. The Apostle offers a suggestion. “All of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.” 2 Cor 3:18 NIV.

**Looking, loving, longing we grow like.** This is the principle behind these daily thoughts. If day by day, we gaze upon the glory of the Lord, upon the foundation principles of our Master’s life, they will by degrees become part of our own life. For the vision itself is dynamic. We behold the Lord of Glory, who is Spirit and Life, himself the energising, transforming power.

In order to bring the Heavenly Vision within the range of our human comprehension, we need to get a practical knowledge of the mind of Jesus Christ when on earth. Little is known of the first thirty years of Jesus’ life, but he came forth with certain characteristics of mind and spirit, which resulted in unique perfection. His power was only the outward and last expression of self-mastery.

Jesus had singleness of purpose unique to the human mind; one supreme object running through every detail of his life, viz., to reveal the Father to us. Jesus had singleness of mind about himself, his vocation, his relation to his Father, so he had no fear of failure. Jesus had singleness of mind about nature: Nature working for or with humans, not antagonistic, if we are in harmony with God. Jesus had singleness of mind about the will of God, which he came to reveal: God’s will is always Love unfailing, and the certain purpose that wrong shall be put right, disease conquered by Life and Harmony, and the death which results from discord, conquered by the perfection of Life which is eternal. He had singleness of mind about the response in people to the will of God. When faith is present, the power of life is in each individual to respond to the summons.

We cannot talk of doing the works of God and ignore self-preparation and self-mastery. The musician has trained ear and
fingers by daily practice, keeping always the ideal at which he or she is aiming, clearly before them, until their persistency is rewarded by easeful habit. The artist educates eye and hand; the builder, the mechanic, the housewife, the child, all attain skill by the same principle. The quickness of attainment is in proportion to the clearness of the mental vision of what is desired. The mental grasp is the greatest factor. This granted, the practical comes comparatively easily. Is not Christian self-mastery to be attained along the same lines? The eye must be trained to see clearly the glory of the vision you desire to reflect, the mind trained to think habitually thoughts in keeping with it (it is the habitual thoughts that count), then word and actions will unconsciously fall into line. Looking, loving, longing we grow like.

Since the heavenly vision is too wonderful for us to grasp as a whole, it has been suggested that we should take one of the great living truths of our Lord’s life each day of the week, and try to realize its power in our life and thought for that one day.

The constant friction of daily life, its trials and difficulties, give us the opportunity to make this daily truth a reality to us personally if we bring each difficulty face to face with the Divine and realise how the Divine can triumph over it. Thus in time the name of the day will unconsciously call up the thought of the truth for the day, and be a source of strength and inspiration to us.

The greatest forces in the world work in silence. Life comes in silence, works silently. God speaks in silence to our souls. Let us train our minds to be silent in God’s presence for a few minutes each day. Endeavour to switch off every thought and desire and focus on the special attribute for the day. Be still inside and let God make himself known to our spirit, our mind opened to the Lord.

We may not even be aware of a still small voice, but we shall come out of the “luminous silence” with a feeling of renewal, our spirit quickened to see and understand. The great power of prayer consists, not so much in asking, as in learning how to receive.

The omnipresence of God
“If we are to practice prayer and meditation, it is infinitely more simple when we recognize the omnipresence of God, because then one is no longer seeking to discover it. The ground upon which we walk, the air we breathe, the body in which we dwell, and everything, everywhere is demonstrating the living presence and creative patterns of this infinite Spirit of God. When we know this truth, we can just become still at any hour of the day and night and instantly abide in God’s Immaculate Perfection.

When all the words have been spoken, when all the words have been written about spiritual truth, unless they all lead us into this practice of the living presence, we are missing the central objective. Be still, and let God take dominion over you in love.”

Bro. Mandus, Call Unto Me, Prayers for Help and Healing, pp. 2-3

Grow like Me
“Think of me. Look at me often, and unconsciously you will grow like me. You may never see it. The nearer you get to me, the more you will see your unlikeness to me. So be comforted my children. Your very deep sense of failure is a sure sign that you are growing nearer to me. Remember too, it is only struggle that hurts. In sloth, spiritual, or mental or physical, there is no sense of failure or discomfort, but with action, with effort, you are conscious not of strength but of weakness – at least at first.

Love, joy, peace, welcome these. Let no personal feelings, no thoughts of self, banish these. Singly, they are miracle-producing in a life, but together, they can command all that is needed on the physical, mental and spiritual planes. It is in these wonder-realm attributes all success lies. You have to see your inner selves as all they should be, and then the work is accomplished. Not in rushing and striving on the material plane, but on the battlefield of the soul are these things won.”

God Calling, p. 41
SUNDAY GOD THE SOURCE OF JOY

My joy I give unto you
“Joy is like lightning. And they who find their centre in Joy will run like lightning, for Joy is electric...Any activity whose reward seems to lie at the end must be drudgery. For when a thing is ended it is dead; it belongs to the past. So, give yourself to life, not death! Start all life’s races with the intention of enjoying thoroughly all the thrills, from the first crack of the gun to the last burst of effort when you break through the tape... Oh, run for the love of it! Jump for the joy of it! And no matter how far ahead the other fellow gets, keep this love and joy, carry on at a good swinging pace, AND YOU WILL GET THERE. To pray effectively we need joy, which means that we have to drop all fear and cringing at the start. God chose the Umpire, gave us the power, set all the goals, and watches over us constantly. So, lift up your head and be glad!”

Glenn Clark, Windows of Heaven, p.36

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“God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness...”
Hebrews 1:9.
“I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.” John 15:11.

The children of Israel were repeatedly exhorted to “Rejoice in the Lord,” “Rejoice before the Lord,” “Be glad and rejoice.” True religion is associated with joy and rejoicing. God is the source of joy, the promise of what God wants to be to God’s children, and wants to do for them. Joy is also the keynote of the Angel’s song announcing the birth of Jesus Christ, who is the full revelation of the Father to humanity. “I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people!” Luke 2:10

We are apt to think of the Saviour only as “A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief” and forget that Jesus “was anointed with the oil of gladness beyond his companions.” Heb 1:9 Jesus lived in union of Spirit with the Father, the source of joy; he rejoiced in Nature and in all the Father’s plans and methods; he entered wholeheartedly into the simple joys of those around; Jesus loved little children.

This deep and abiding joy in God ought to be the keynote in every Christian’s life. This note struck clearly and unalteringly, is greatly needed in the world today and appeals strongly to all, for joy attracts like light. If the Israelites had reason to rejoice, how much more have we, who rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Begin by cultivating the spirit of thanksgiving; thanksgiving and joy are closely allied. An habitually thankful mind makes us see things in their true relationship and right perspective.

So often tiny troubles loom as tragedies, but thanksgiving counteracts this. “Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God for you” 1Thess 5:18. We must be thankful for the gift of life; thankful that we can contribute to conditions which will mould people, and can love them out of sin and weakness into goodness and strength; thankful for the bond of unity with the whole family of God in heaven and on earth; thankful that we have God’s infinite power to draw upon.
SEED THOUGHTS continued....
Joy of heart lies in the fact that every hour of life, we can be dispelling shadows. We must feel joy before we can radiate it. The world is scintillating with gladness, if only we have eyes to see it. There is the joy of Nature and of Beauty; the joy of human companionship and spiritual fellowship; the joy of worship and communion with Infinite Love; and the joy of partnership with Infinite Power. How can we be miserable?

We all know the joy that comes to the person who has made a great contribution to science or art. This is the daily joy of every co-worker with God – the creating of happiness; the carrying of light and peace to troubled minds; the imparting of strength, courage, and aspiration to wearied travelers along life’s way.

There is also the joy of personal growth, of being able to rise above conditions, and overcome all obstacles by faith – “More than conquerors through him who loved us.” Rom 8:37

Further there is the joy of conscious co-operation with God, the joy of watching the unfolding of God’s plans, and of helping forward their development.

Every Sunday, let us resolutely leave in our loving Father’s care all our daily burdens and problems, thus entering gladly into God’s rest. Then our spirits, free to rise, will see new visions which will send us on our way rejoicing, giving us new insight, new inspiration and strength for coming days.

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.” Phil 4:4.

“Do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is our strength.” Neh 8:10.

“Rejoice in all the undertakings in which the Lord your God has blessed you.” Deut. 12:7. [M.B.]

“Today live in the rapture of the Kingdom. ‘Claim big things’. Claim joy and peace and freedom from care. Joy in me, trust in me, see me in everything, rejoice in me. Share all with me and give me the joy of sharing all with you.”

The big picture
“For I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow.” Jer 31:13

“I dwell in the security and perfection of God’s Eternal Spirit, God’s eternal life, today and forever. I am united with his angels in my loved ones, in heaven and upon earth, and rest secure in the knowledge of God’s glorious love for them and for me. Thank you, thank you Father for the miracle and the wonder of eternal life, of eternal glory and for all the things you have prepared for us all from the beginning.”

Brother Mandus, Call Unto Me, p.6.

“They who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy.”

Psalm 126:5

The will of God is not to punish us with tears and problems, sickness or disaster. The will of God, since God is perfect love, is always to forgive our transgressions and to lift us up, out of sadness into joy. Even in the midst of our troubles, if we can but believe in the living presence of God as the one power which is forever seeking to solve them for us, and with us, we shall relax and let go, and allow God to come into the midst of every circumstance....

Brother Mandus, Call Unto Me, pp.11-12

Heaven-life
“ The joy of the Spring shall be yours in full measure. Revel in the earth’s joy... Nature is the embodied spirit of my thoughts of beauty for this world. Treat her as such – as truly my servant and messenger, as any saint who has ever lived. To realize this will bring you both new life-joy. Share her joys and travails and great blessings will be yours... sense my presence in a flower, my message in its beauty and perfume. You can truly live a life not of earth – a heaven-life here and now. Joy – Joy – Joy.”

God Calling, p.68

The Devil’s death knell.
“The joyful heart is the best weapon against all evil. Oh ! Pray and praise... Look up into my face – a look of Love, a feeling of security, a thrill of Joy at the sense of the nearness of my presence – these are your best prayers. Let these smooth the day’s work, then fear will vanish and fear is the grim figure that turns aside success.”

God Calling, p.131.
GOD IS LIFE

Enlarge your vision

“Christ never used the word ‘religion’. He came to teach Life. And that word he used constantly. He came “so that we may have life, and have it more abundantly.”...Prayer wipes away the mist of our unknowing so we see face to face the perfection that God created and which he never mars. To Christ...the maid was not dead but only sleeping. To him the sick were born to be whole, the blind were ready for sight. He taught that the ugly, evil and distorted appearance of things is temporal and hence must pass away. When we see through the eyes of Christ, the imagination is heightened to its spiritual level of insight. And then, recognizing the divine perfection of God’s Plan, we may help him to transform what he will because of our belief...Our Heavenly Father, make us instruments to help to bring your Kingdom of Heaven in its full beauty, love and harmony, from invisibility into visibility, out of the hearts of people.”

Glenn Clark, Windows of Heaven, p.3

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“I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” John 10:10

“Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.” Rev 22:17

Life is born into everyone that comes into the world; and where life is, there God is: for God is not only the original Creator, but also the continuous Creator, the Upholder of Life – “For in Him we live and move and have our being.” Acts 17:28. As surely as we breathe, so surely do we know that God is with us and we are in touch with God. We ought to make no difference in our thought between the life of the body and the life of the soul. It is the same Life.

The power which makes the heart beat is the same as the source of thought and aspiration; nothing that affects the body touches the Life or alters its quality or quantity. We must dissociate Life from the materials on which it works. Life is associated with God. Life can never die. When we put off this material body, the Life that is in us is absolutely unchanged. The power of Life is always working for us, neutralising harmful influences, counteracting the results of our mistakes and our sins as soon as we turn from them.

Life has been the creative agent in our bodies, and we ought to be able to trust it to be the re-creative agent – the curative principle – when we go wrong. Life is the breath of God, therefore, the power of Life never varies, never grows old. We may feel weak, weary or old, but the Life of us is not weak, tired or old. Because the source never changes, the stream of Life through us is always the same.

But we may consciously or unconsciously interfere with its working. Our bodies may contract with fear, anxiety or anger, and hinder the Life flow: then discord in the body quickly follows. But let the Peace of God again take possession of the spirit, and the body will respond with health and harmony also, and we shall have Life and have it abundantly.

It is strange how few Christians give the impression of having abundant Life, spiritually or physically. They are weighed down by the difficulties and trials of their faith. And yet the promise stands; “Whosoever will, let them take the water of Life as a gift.”
Problems in perspective

“Life is a process in which you, the thinker, are creating your own way of life. You are truly responsible for the main stream of your experience, linked of course, with your constant reaction to people, events and environment. It is wise to conceive that so-called happy experience is equal to so-called difficult experience. This is how life unfolds. There must be this contrast between light and dark, good and bad, negative and positive. It is the only way we can ever know or develop personality and all the creative qualities of the mind. Once we realize this truth, we shall create an entirely different attitude to every so-called problem. The pain, the difficulty, the situations which fill us with fear or worry, are all necessary aspects of life and our invincible and eternal power to use our own minds under God’s direction, to help create solutions. The problem is potentially its own answer. It is not intended to break us, but rather to make us embrace the true answer to it.

My counsel is, in the words of Jesus, to ‘agree with your adversary’. This means that you will no longer try to run away from it, or ‘worry yourself to death’ about it, or struggle against it. From now on you will have the privilege and opportunity of reaching the highest and surest creative answer to it….Accept that there is a true and eternal answer already secure and flowing into your experience.”

Brother Mandus, Relaxit and Get Fit, p. 42

Accomplish anything

“There will be no limit to what you can accomplish. Realize that. Never relinquish any task because it seems beyond your power, only if you see it is not my will for you.

Think of the tiny snow-drop shoot in the hard ground. No certainty even that when it has forced its weary way up, sunlight and warmth will greet it. What a task beyond its power that must seem. But the inner urge of Life within the seed, compelling it – it carries out that task. The Kingdom of Heaven is like unto this.”

God Calling, p.128.

Follow your guide

“What of a [person] walking through a glorious glade who fretted because ahead there lay a river and they might not be able to cross it, when all the time, that river was spanned by a bridge? And what if that person had a friend who knew the way – had planned it – and assured them that at no part of the journey would any unforeseen contingency arise, and that all was well? So leave your foolish fears, and follow me, your guide, and determinedly refuse to consider the problems of tomorrow.”

God Calling, p.79.
TUESDAY      GOD IS POWER

Trust Completely
“Your faith in your Heavenly Father must be so complete that it will move mountains. Look upward toward God as One whose Love is as infinite as the sky is infinite and whose power compels all, even to the farthest ends of the universe. Now pray to God, and – like the parachutist – jump off, right where you are now, into the surrounding atmosphere. Trust that the parachute is going to open, and that you are already safe. Now if air can support a parachute, how much more sufficient is the Love of god to support your prayer!

The most difficult law to obey in the kindergarten of prayer is this law of trusting relinquishment. To give a desire or a dream, or your loved one, or yourself WHOLLY into God’s care means not only that you trust God but that you trust God’s Power. Then letting God use time in his way, and every avenue and agency which he chooses, you wait calmly while he brings answers to your prayers down into the realm of tangible realities…Father, you have given us our hopes and dreams. We trust you to unfold them in time to save us from despair…for we are falling into the arms of a perfect, Loving Master.”

Glenn Clark, Windows of Heaven.

SEED THOUGHTS FOR DAILY MEDITATION
“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you” Acts 1:8.
Power in its entirety is in the Being of God: and as God dwells within us, we can draw on that at any moment for the full measure we need. We are the channels of God’s power to people, and before God makes any demand upon us, God provides the supply. We are called upon to let flow out, just that which God pours in.

When we forget this and work with effort, we draw on our own nerve energy and shut off God’s power; then we quickly feel tired and exhausted. When we relax the feeling of strain and draw only on God’s power, quietly expecting God to work through us, then we feel no physical strain, but rather exhilaration and refreshment of spirit.

“They that wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.” Isaiah 40:31.

When we feel our own inadequacy, we are inefficient through self-consciousness; but when we take freely of the power provided for us, God’s power, there is no room for self-consciousness. We realise it is God working through us.

Everyone has an adequate supply for all their needs both spiritually and physically.[If we only share.] We need to spiritualise the body and realize it is the servant of the mind, prepared of God to carry out God’s plans – not an obstacle antagonistic to them, which has to be reckoned with and overcome at every turn. (“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own?” 1 Cor 6:19.

We can do easily and without strain all that God gives us to do, if we let the power of God flow through us freely. “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” 2 Cor 12:9. Doing without conscious effort is the condition of perfect workmanship. The effort that is required of us, and it is a real one, is the effort -- not to produce -- but to keep our connection with the Source of power, and trust God to do the producing. Electricity abounds everywhere in the free atmosphere, but people have to provide the means of attracting it,
SEED THOUGHTS continued....
and directing it to supply the needs, whether for light, sound or movement. So also God is All Power, but it remains for us to attract and direct the supply of power necessary to our needs. The prayer of faith opens up the line of communication. What we require must be clearly and definitely stated, and the line of communication must be kept open by calm, steady, trustful expectation. See James 1:6-8.

We must distinguish clearly between Faith and Belief. We often believe much which the quality of our faith cannot obtain for us. Belief comes as the result of careful thought and reasoning, while Faith is the working of a spiritual force, “the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” Heb 11:1: a conviction too deep to be affected by existing circumstances or apparent conditions.

If, in the silence of God’s presence, we fix our gaze on the Vision of God’s omnipotence, the realization of God’s power will take possession of our spirits and Belief will be changed to vital Faith, that creative force which can cooperate with God to bring to pass that which could not otherwise be.

Never suggest weakness or failure to yourself, or to others. You shut yourself off from God’s power by negative thought and become untrue in thought to your belief in God’s gift at Pentecost. Our minds have been filled with thoughts of inadequacy of body and spirit, consequently we are always unconsciously suggesting it, and working it out. We need to get a new consciousness – a God-consciousness; get our minds saturated with the realization of the power of God and God’s adequacy for every emergency. Then adverse circumstances will not paralyse us, but only furnish the opportunity for the manifestation of God’s power. As this thought becomes more and more real to us, a subtle change will take place in our attitude. We shall cease to think of getting possession of God’s power, and using it, but we shall think rather of the Spirit of power taking possession of us and using us.

Let us rejoice in God’s power and put the thought of God’s omnipotence in the very front of our consciousness, so that it may come between us and all depressing events and possibilities.

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” Phil 4:13

Trust God with our problems
“If God were speaking to you as Jesus Christ might speak, he would ask you to reveal to him what your problem really is, what it amounts to, and then God would tell you that there can be no problem in the Spirit of the Father. He would say, ‘Well, there is your problem. Now give it to me and I will take it, and I will deal with it for you and with you. You just stand aside and watch me bring about this divine adjustment. Trust me completely with it.’

But God would say, ‘Now you have given it to me, it does not belong to you. For you have surrendered it, you no longer believe in its power over you, nor possess it. You are now believing that I am bringing all my power to bear in the midst of it to bring forth that which is perfect, for do you not know that I cannot bring forth anything that is not perfect? Much of your trouble is caused by your fear and worry about it.’ …

The great sin – if you like to think of it like that – the great sin of the world is that we do not fully trust God with our problems. How then can those things which hurt us most be solved, if we do not find and realize God at our point of need?”

Brother Mandus, For Those in Trouble, p. 9

“The second aspect of being with the father is to live and work in the consciousness of his Power pervading you always. This is called, ‘Practising the Presence of God’ and wonderful things begin to happen. This is the way to bring a new adventure into life because God makes business successful, transforms trouble into victory, brings powerful friends to help you and opens up new channels of universal service. Do all things as a loving sacrifice to him, work for him, and look to him as the source of inexhaustible supply.”

Brother Mandus, Freedom through Faith, p. 22

Drop your crutch
“When human effort or material help of any kind is removed, then my power can become operative. I cannot teach a person to walk who is trusting to a crutch. Away with your crutch, and my power shall so invigorate you that you shall indeed walk on to victory. Never underestimate my power. It is limitless.”

God Calling, p.45.
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“and in God there is no darkness at all.” 1 John 1:5.

Jesus: “I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” John 8:12.

“For once you were darkness but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light.” Eph 5:8.

Let us start the day by realising that we have the Light within to illuminate every shadow that crosses our path, because God who is Light dwells within us. We need to cultivate the realization of the omnipresence of God; to live and continue steadfast in thought, all through the hours of the day; to be open to this glorious Presence which sheds radiance on every pleasure, on every detail of service, however humble or exalted, as well as making loneliness impossible.

If doubt and perplexity present themselves, let us be still a moment – keep silent within – so as to realize the Inner Light. God’s wisdom will illumine our minds and guide us perfectly, if we expect it and reckon on it. God knows all. Expect illumination from God, and it will come.

People are much more inclined to seek help from others than depend on direct spiritual guidance. Yet it is written: “If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly and it will be given you.” James 1:5. God will never fail us if we habitually wait for God in all things, great and small.

Guidance does not often come through deliberate thinking, but dawns on our consciousness from within when we are still. If we seek guidance just before sleep, stating our problem clearly, the answer often comes with waking thoughts. The principle is always the same – ask definitely and then leave the subject, and God will think into us the Wisdom we need, if we wait restfully for it. To say “I don’t know what to do” shuts the mind up to its own darkness. A receptive expectancy opens the window of our spirit through which the Light may shine into us, and through us to others.

Be still and know

“We thank you, our Heavenly Father, that we live in a world where Light controls life, and where darkness is but a seeming absence of light. Help us to keep our eyes upon the sunshine and not upon the shadows, upon the realities of the Kingdom and not upon the counterfeits of the wilderness. Oh, that people would praise you more for your goodness and for your wonderful works! Now let us dream your dreams and vision your visions, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Glenn Clark, Windows of Heaven, p. 28
SEED THOUGHTS continued.…

But first of all we must turn a searchlight into all the dark corners of our being and clean out everything that cannot stand God’s Light. No thought of darkness, no unworthy feeling or desire must be allowed to keep possession.

We cannot prevent dark thoughts from presenting themselves, but we can change them immediately to constructive thoughts and so prevent the negative thoughts from dimming our consciousness. Turn out all thoughts not conducive to conditions of joy – never give expression to them. One really poised, radiant mind in a community will do far more than forty dim ones. We must keep them bright and clear like reflectors in a lighthouse, free from all the murky thoughts that dim and darken ourselves and others. Light builds up and brings nutrition. The x-ray, which is invisible light, can alter tissue in such a way as to make it more possible for the natural healing process to succeed.

So also our mind responds to the idea of Light, and a real change is produced in the body as well as in the mind, for the body responds to our thoughts. There is not a function of the body that is not altered by thought. See Prov 23:7. This is true of both body and character.

Our habitual thoughts are responsible for more than we have thought possible and need constant censorship. Moreover thoughts vibrate and travel like the Light. Consciously or unconsciously the influence of our thought-life reaches others, uplifting or depressing.

Let us seek to live consciously in the Light of God’s presence and rejoice in God. Then dark thoughts will be impossible. God has placed us in the world to be lighthouses, to reflect God’s Light and to shed radiance wherever we go. This is our high vocation and our unspeakable joy.

“The hidden Life in all creation

“One lunch time I had been helping to dry the dishes after the meal and was standing before the open drawer of the sideboard, putting knives and forks away. I was not thinking of anything, apart from vague attention to the job I was doing. Suddenly, without warning, I was flooded with the most intense blue-white light I have ever seen. Words can never adequately nor remotely touch the depth of this experience. It was like looking into the face of the sun, magnified several times in its light-intensity. It would be truer to say that I lost all sense of self in a total immersion in Light. But more real than the Light itself, was the unbearable ecstasy which accompanied it. All sense of time or self disappeared, yet it could only have been a fraction of a second. I only knew a sense of infinite dimension, and a knowledge that this was the Spirit of God Almighty which was the hidden Life, Light, Love in all humankind, all life, all creation. I knew that nothing existed apart from this Spirit. It was infinite love, peace, order, power, creation and the ultimate truth and perfection. It was all wisdom, tolerance, understanding and eternal life for all people.

“I also knew that had I been suffering from any so-called incurable disease whatsoever, I would have become instantly whole – then, after a fraction of a second, I became myself again, still standing beside the open drawer, putting knives and forks away. That one blazing moment was, and remains, the most vital moment of my life, for there has never been a repetition. But out of it was born the Mission to which I have, for this past 30 years, dedicated my life. I tell you this because it helps me and I am sure will help you to embrace the complete concept of the omnipresence of God.”

Brother Mandus, Call Unto Me, p1

Nature Laughs

I come, I come. You need me. Live much out here. My sunshine, my glorious air, my presence, my teaching. They are a holiday anywhere for you. Sunshine helps to make glad the heart. It is the laughter of nature. Live much outside. My medicines are sun and air, trust and faith. Trust is the spirit sun, your being enwrapped by the Divine Spirit. Faith is the breathing in of the Divine Spirit. Mind, soul and body need helping. Welcome my treatment for you both. Nature is often my nurse for tired souls and weary bodies. Let her have her way.
Homesick?
“The mother hen, one of the humblest feathered creatures of the common life, symbolizes perfect sheltering love. For she is both mother and habitation for her little ones. Christ – the perfect panacea for homesickness, still cries out to our age: “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem... how often would I have gathered your children together, even as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, but you would not!” This yearning to take us home was expressed again and again.
“Come to me all you who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Matt 11:28.
Himself a homeless wanderer, Christ came to prepare homes for us both here and in the hereafter, safe in the Kingdom of Love. The deeper we enter into the sanctuary of his presence, the more secure we feel. And with the inexpressible joy of that oneness, we long to lead others where we have come.
‘I go to prepare a place for you.’ John 14:2.
“Father, take us up the ladder of affection for others, from that first mere tolerance to liking, from selfish attachment into friendship, deepening then into comradeship and finally into the highest spiritual Love.”
Glenn Clark, Windows of Heaven, p.18

SEED THOUGHTS FOR DAILY MEDITATION
“In this is Love, not that we loved God but that God loved us, and sent his son...” 1 John 4:7-11.
“Therefore be imitators of God as beloved children, and live in love as Christ loved us and gave himself ...” Eph 5:1.

Since we abide in God and God abides in us, we are surrounded with Love, without and within; indeed we are living in an ocean of Love. Love is everywhere. Let us take time to realize what this means, until we “being rooted and grounded in Love... may comprehend with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the Love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that we may be filled with all the fullness of God.” Eph 3:14-19.

Love is the great dynamic, the great source of inspiration, the great creative genius. Love is the Fullness of God. However great the intellectual capacity, if Love is lacking the personality is poor and empty, and fails to attract except on its own plane. The greatest personalities are those filled to overflowing with great-hearted sympathetic Love, plus whatever other gifts they possess. For Love must overflow; it can never be shut in and concealed. Love gives, must find expression in giving. We need one day in the week, not so much to realize that we ourselves are surrounded by Love, but rather to think with great persistency as to how much Love we are shedding abroad.

Every moment of our waking lives we are in contact with people and things, and it is glorious to think that every touch may be a touch of Love. It is extraordinary how many lead a negative existence, adding to the sum total of ignorance, by not adding to the power of the influences of Divine Love! It is wise to stop and ask ourselves candidly the question: “What is my influence? What is my contribution to the life of humanity? Happiness or misery? We are apt to touch life and people with such a heavy hand. But the hand of Love is always light and soothing and understanding. There is a great difference between ordinary human love and true spiritual love.²

² There are six Greek words all translated as ‘love’ in English. ‘Eros’ is sexual love; ‘phileo’ is friendship or brotherly love; ‘charis’ is grace, ‘eunoia’ charity or love in action, ‘stergo’ is tender caring of children and pets, and ‘agape’ is unconditional love, the way God loves us – Divine Love. [BP]
Ordinary human love is emotional and depends largely on the attitude of the loved ones: the other [agape] we feel it is true, but it wells up from our innermost being and is independent of circumstances and reciprocity. It is rooted in the Love of God.

“Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of Lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change” James 1:17.

In moments of impatience or irritation, if we will just pause and pronounce the word ‘Love’ we shall feel its power. It will well up through us and carry away all unworthy feelings on its stream, leaving Love-patience in possession. This Love-patience ought to be one of the chief characteristics of the followers of Jesus, making touchiness impossible.

The Love that looks for the best in faulty humans, “takes no account of evil” in the sure faith that the power of the Life within will nourish the good and crowd out the evil. We are often too hard on the faults of others and ready to make excuses for our own. Let us reverse the order.

Love [agape] is eternal. We are here to radiate that Love. Yet Love is not easy-going tolerance. We must distinguish between the sin and the sinner. Our Master was filled with righteous indignation against sin and denounced the willful sinner, but he was all gentleness to the repentant. Before we can appropriate anything of the fullness of God, we must let the Love of God be “poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.” Rom 5:5

Let us be quiet and feel the impulse of Love, before we begin the day -- Love animating every atom of our being, permeating our thoughts and desires — Love for the source of all love, Love for our fellows, especially Love for the unlovable, because they need it most. “Love is patient, love is kind, love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way...it bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. LOVE NEVER FAILS.” 1 Cor 13: 4-8. [MB]

God belongs to you and you to God
“The Love that is God is perfection… You belong to him. There is no greater revelation than your own recognition of the liberating truth, that God, your Heavenly father, belongs to you and you to him. For you and the Father are one, because you are the temple of God’s Holy Spirit… in him you are radiant, for the light of the Holy Spirit is upon you. See yourself for what you truly are, a child of the Most High, indwelt by the living Spirit of God Almighty, his love radiating through you until you are all aglow, until you are realizing the wonderful destiny of a child of God, till you see yourself in the image and likeness of Christ, because you are now contemplating the beauty of Christ in your own being.”

Brother Mandus, For Those in Trouble, pp. 20-21

Eject sin with Love
“Remember that love is the power which transforms the world. Love not only of me, Love not only of the few dear to you, but Love of all – of the publicans - the sinners – the harlots – Love.”

God Calling, p.134

Test your Love
“A great love knows that in every difficulty, every trial, every failure, the presence of the loved one suffices. Test your love for me by this. Just to be with me, just to know I am beside you – does that bring you joy and peace? If not, then pray for more love.”

God Calling, p 130

The Divine instrument
“What would we think of a music dealer who locked up in a dank cell a perfect gramophone upon which had been played a poor record, while they continued to sell the poor record indiscriminately? Condemn the sin but never the sinner. Cultivate the habit of seeing the perfection beneath discord and you will discover what a divine instrument God has designed. The only way to help others to cast off their poor records is to cast off the poor records we have been playing ourselves. Like the prodigal we too must cry out, ‘I have sinned against heaven and in your sight: I am no more worthy to be called your son.’ Only thus can we rid ourselves of inharmonies and begin to play the celestial music of the spheres.”

Glenn Clark, Windows of Heaven, p.32
“There are times when the world seems to be whirling through dark clouds and the situations in which we find ourselves from day to day are increasingly depressing…To see in a sparrow’s fall, or the closing of a door, or the change of a season a part of the rhythm of eternal things – this lifts prayer above mere words and puts it in our eyes, our ears, our sense of touch. This takes prayer out of the meeting house, and forms, and special days, and fills it with the fragrance of the moors, the tang of mountains, the freshness of the seas. This creates the music and the poem In every soul that has eyes to see, and ears to hear the eternal rhythms and harmonies. So little is accomplished by a flimsy, perfunctory five- or ten – minute prayer ! But ABSOLUTELY NO EVIL CAN STAND BEFORE A TWENTY-FOUR HOUR, LIVING PRAYER POURING FROM A SURRENDERED SOUL. Everything Jesus had to say about the Kingdom of Heaven can be summed up in these words: Give all that you have and all that you are to the Father. This is the wedding of a soul to Christ.”

Glenn Clark, Windows of Heaven, p. 30

SEED THOUGHTS

The conditions which caused the cross were not in Christ, they were the result of sin and discord in the world. Jesus’ answer to that discord was perfect love and selflessness; when he was abused he did not return abuse; when he suffered he did not threaten.”1 Peter 2:20 Jesus denied the [base] human instinct at every turn, and conquered through love.

Love knows no sacrifice because love thinks only of its object; self is left out of account. When Peter said in effect, “[think] of yourself, Lord!” Jesus replied: “Get behind me Satan.” Matt 16:22-23. This demonstration of Love in conquest is the great power of the Cross. Love is the great magnet behind the cross that attracts all people to Christ: the self-forgetting, self-effacing Love which despised the shame and suffering. The spirit with which people so often meet the trials of life would make the cross impossible; they pity themselves and blame circumstances or other people, and don’t expect to reveal in their life the triumphant power of love and the sustaining power of the grace of God. They look around on all sides for some way out of their trials instead of looking to God alone for deliverance.

There is not one bit of the misery with which people so often meet the difficulties of life in Christ’s experience, because he walked consciously in the light of God’s presence and in the realization of God’s almighty power. People are apt to make tragedies of trifles and let their whole outlook be shadowed and darkened by them. Let us bring all our difficulties, great and small, into the light of God’s presence. It is not necessary to wait till we can get away alone. Just where we are, we can shut out for the moment the discord of the world voices, silence our own thoughts and feelings, and the Inner Light will show things in their right proportions.
**SEED THOUGHTS continued....**

We shall see clearly the right course to take, the right thing to say. Thus the difficulties will become reflectors of God’s light, and bring no darkness or misery with them, but rather a demonstration of God’s transfiguring power.

Let us, every Friday, study ourselves in relation to the standard of what God expects of us – the standard that our Saviour held up to us in his own life and conduct. We shall see how far short we fall, but we shall not waste time in uselessly bewailing the past, but rather humbly seeking forgiveness for our failures, mark our weak points, and set about strengthening them, keeping steadily in mind, not what we want to avoid, but what we want to attain, because *“looking and longing we grow like.”* "Forgetting what lies behind, and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal…”* Phil 3:13-14.

We are not isolated units, but members of one body of which Christ is the Head. See Eph 4:1-16 If we strive towards the “measure of the full stature of Christ”, the whole body will feel the uplift. For “if one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.” 1 Cor 12:12-27 “And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance; and endurance produces character and character produces hope.” Romans 5:3 The maturing of one member strengthens the whole Body and adds to its witness in the world.

**A living prayer**

We must abide by the laws of his Kingdom. Fundamentally the great law is Love. So we must go out of our way to help everyone to the best of our ability, and not be afraid to declare the truth of God we find for ourselves. We share of our blessings and give of our substance wherever we see opportunity. The perfect law returns to us one hundredfold that which we selflessly extend of ourselves.

We unload all the sins and burdens of the past and accept Divine Forgiveness here and now, and thus start life anew, reborn in his Spirit. We forgive completely everyone who has ever harmed us, and in sending our love to them we pray Divine Love to enfold them. We cannot find God if we are hating or sending forth resentment to any of his children for he is also in each of them. If we hate our brother we hate also God. That is the perfect way. It is the safe, easy, simple and direct way to unlimited freedom. And all the loving Power of God and all his angels are seeking to lift you right up into that way.”

*Brother Mandus, Freedom Through Faith, p.23*

**Your cross is you**

“Mine is the Cross on which the burdens of the world are laid. How foolish is any one of my disciples who seeks to bear their own burdens, when there is only one place for them – my Cross. It is like a weary person on a hot and dusty road, bearing a heavy load, when all plans have been made for its carriage. The road, the scenery, flowers, beauty around: all are lost. But my children you may think I did say, ‘Take up your cross daily and follow me.’ The cross given to each one of you is only a cross provided on which you can crucify the self of yours that hinders progress and Joy, and prevents the flow through your being of my invigorating Life and Spirit.”

*God Calling, p.73.*

If you believe it is my hand that has saved you, then you must believe I will keep you in the way you should go. Even a human rescuer does not save a person from drowning only to place them in other deep and dangerous waters. But rather to place them on dry land and restore them to animation and health, and to see them to their home.

*God Calling, p.162.*
SATURDAY  GOD THE SOURCE OF PEACE

My Peace I Give unto You

“Quietness and stillness always come first in everything that has permanence to it. Not only is it first in time and value, but it actually surrounds, covers, fills all the rest. Quietness if properly done, is ALL. A seed if it lets itself fall into the ground and is properly still, does not have to do anything else...all is done. A sitting hen, if properly quiet, needs to do nothing else. The same with us. If we are properly still, God does all the rest. When you feel anxiety fading like a summer cloud, you may know that your prayer is being answered. If peace becomes a sense of joy or ecstasy, a miracle is taking place at that moment in the mind and body of the one for whom you pray. This is the peace that passes understanding.”

Glenn Clark, Windows of Heaven, p. 48

SEED THOUGHTS FOR DAILY MEDITATION

“And the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard (Lit. Watch, keep in security as by a military guard) your heart and your mind in Christ Jesus.” Phil 4:7

“My Peace I Give unto You

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Glenn Clark, Windows of Heaven, p. 48

“Blessed are the Peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.”

Matt 5:9

Peace! The very word is a refreshment to soul and body in this time of turmoil, and is by far the most necessary note we can strike, and one to which every thought, word or deed of our life should ring true.

We need the extra sense of peace born of the knowledge that we are co-workers with God: we do the bit God gives us to do and leave the rest confidently in God’s hand: then we know God’s peace – the peace that rules out all anxious thought, all questions of ways and means because it is founded in quiet confidence in God – God’s infinite love, God’s infinite knowledge, God’s infinite resource, God’s infinite power. “Who is able to accomplish abundantly far more than we can ask or imagine.” Eph 3:20. Such peace brings health to mind and to body.

Say quietly and reflectively, “I am now in the presence of God. I drop out of mind all care, all responsibility and all tenseness; I am still and peaceful. I rejoice in God who is my refuge and strength.”

Peace and anxiety cannot exist together. The very word ‘anxiety’ indicates ‘division of thought’-- now hoping, now fearing. Paul exhorts, “Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.” Phil 4:6. Peter also says “Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.” 1 Pet 5:7.

In reality, anxiety spells distrust of God, therefore worry is wicked. We must change every thought of worry as soon as it presents itself, for a thought of trust in God. We must close the double doors of peace between us and all disturbing world clamour, and find rest in the sanctuary of God’s love. “You will keep them in perfect peace (Heb. Peace, Peace) whose mind is stayed on you, because they trust in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for in the Lord God is everlasting strength.”

Isa 26:3-5.
We need to breathe in deeply of God’s peace till it becomes a part of our very being. The tongue must be taught silence. All quarrels and arguments must be strictly tabooed. In wrangling and arguing one mind is clashing against another, which causes a shock to both. All shocks are destructive of receptivity, and often prevent, for many days together a return to the heart silence which is alone effective of good.

For it is a heart silence which we must attain. Like those places fathoms deep in the seas which no storms reach, no turmoil disturbs, so the inner chamber of one’s being may be still, what ever the outward conditions. Having this deep peace within, we shall breathe out an atmosphere of peace wherever we go, and our influence will tend to neutralize the spirit of discord and unrest, so that everyone is conscious of it.

This will bring blessing, especially to the very young and the very old, because they are most responsive to thought atmosphere, and thought vibrations often reach them better than spoken words, if sent out with that intent.

Speak to your own heart or to the heart of another earnestly and emphatically, trying to realize fully the import of each word – “The Peace of God which passes all understanding, shall guard your heart and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.” Since Christ who dwells in me is Prince of Peace, in me is the Centre of Peace. From this centre I may go to and fro in a distracted world, carrying God’s messages, and bringing an atmosphere of Peace.

It will help us wonderfully if, every Saturday, we strive to grow in thought that we are true Peace-makers, each one of us. This is our vocation: this is but loyalty to our Christian faith.

“Peace I leave with you: my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not let them be afraid.” John 14:27.

Lifted into the perfection of God’s presence

“The highest form of prayer is to know that, in perfect stillness, we are immersed in his Spirit. In this state we do not need to clamour for anything, because we know such unity with God means that everything perfect is manifesting in our lives now. Our joy is merely to place ourselves at his disposal, to worship him in the peace within.

“'Be still and know that I am God’. We sit completely relaxed, in perfect peace, neither searching nor straining, for instantly Divine Love is lifting us into his Consciousness and health, freedom, infinite Peace, Love and all perfection are actually enveloping us. God is the health, achievement and peace that we need. Be still like this and you will arise refreshed, blessed and filled with a clearer vision about your life and what to do with every circumstance. Your thoughts about any trouble henceforth are to be of joyful thankfulness that the Father is dealing with it now.”

Brother Mandus, Freedom Through Faith, p. 22

Come to Me

“Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Matthew 11:28

It is the eternal promise of Jesus Christ that he will bear every burden, reveal divine joy, sanctify every day and bring forth healing and blessing to everyone who will come to him.

I declare my perfect faith, and perfect love, in the great Father of all, and leave my life completely in his care. I realise there is no circumstance, problem, disease or disaster, which cannot be healed or adjusted in the power of the Great Spirit. In him there is no problem. In his Spirit there is only perfect peace, love and perfect everything, and all things working together for good. I turn my back upon every dilemma, and lift these burdens to the father. I believe completely that he has taken them, and that in his light there is only perfection. My life at this moment is subject to Divine adjustment, and I am content to allow the Father to manifest his perfect will for perfect everything.

And as I let go these burdens, I pray only that he will use me to help lift the burdens from others today. Thank you Father, I have found your living presence. Thank you Father, that my life is filled with your peace. Use me according to your will, to bring blessings to everyone else, through Jesus Christ my Lord.

Brother Mandus, Call unto me, p.92
Insertion of additional readings, July 2011, by Bronwyn Pryor [BP]
orbron@pryor.org.au. The new references quoted are:
Brother Mandus, For Those in Trouble, World Healing Crusade
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