

## Scripture Reading

### A Reading From the Book of Psalms (*Psalm 139:17-18*)

How precious to me are Your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. When I awake, I am still with you. The Word of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.

### Reflection ~ How God Sees Us

**The knowledge of how God sees us is key to our faith.** It seems that many Christians have difficulty these days in putting their trust in God. This is largely due to us not really taking the effort to know God. How is it possible to trust someone whom one does not really know? Many without a second thought would put their trust willingly in a bank. However, when it comes to trusting God, it becomes a great internal struggle. Yet those few who have succeeded in trusting God will testify about an inner peace that always precede a better outcome to their problems than they could have wished for themselves. Yes, God, infinite in His love and power, never fails those who really put all their trust in Him!

**God thinks about us all the time!** His precious thoughts about us are not just many but they outnumber the grains of sand! Even the person who loves me most does not think about me as often as God, my Father does! Scripture tells me I am always in the mind of God! This is because I am the object of His love. How often do we think about God? Most of the time, we would only preoccupy our thoughts with things that are really important to us. We would normally not waste time thinking about trifling things. God proves that we are precious to Him (cf. Isaiah 43:4) in thinking about us all the time!

**As a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you (cf. Isaiah 62:5b).** It is indeed an uplifting thought that we can give joy to God! Scripture tells us that not only God rejoices over us but He rejoices over us with singing! (cf. Zephaniah 3:17). Just as He rejoices over us, God teaches us to rejoice in Him (cf. Luke 1:47). True joy is from God who is the source of eternal joy, and one does not need any earthly reason to be joyful. If I avail of joy from God, I can be joyful even in the midst of all my earthly troubles and difficulties. In fact, God wants me to be joyful all the time! (cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:16). His joy is freely available to me.

**If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask Him! (cf. Matthew 7:11).** If an earthly parent knows how to give good things to his/her child will not our Heavenly Father know how to give us? St. Paul reminds us that since God has not hesitated to spare His Son for our sakes, how will He withhold other things from us? (cf. Romans 8:32). In another reminder St Paul says : *So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir (cf. Galatians 4:7)*. In Christ we inherit all that God owns!! Jesus Himself says: “*Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.*” (Luke 12:32). Due to the great generosity of God, our Father we have a bright, glorious future beyond description. We have all reasons to be joyful, not just happy.

**Delight yourself in the LORD and He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in Him and He will do this. (Psalm 37:4-5).** The Lord in His infinite goodness and wisdom wants us to put Him first in our lives. His Divine Will not only takes care of our earthly good but more importantly, our eternal good. He is the one who can look into eternity. When we look for blessings oftentimes we think about material riches but God wants to give us more than that. In order that He can do this, we need to be open to be directed by His Divine Will.

### Conversation with Jesus

Precious Lord, I exalt and magnify You! Help me gain a deeper insight into Your love for me. I find it mind blowing that our Heavenly Father loves me as much as He loves You! (cf. John 17:23). Let this wondrous truth be forever etched deep in my heart so that I can always respond to You in love. Lord, I want to bring You joy by demonstrating my trust in You. Help me build a new solid relationship with You based on stronger love and trust in You. Mary, Protectress of the Faith, come to my aid always. Thank You Jesus. Praise You, Jesus.

**The victory that conquers the world is our faith. (1 John 5:4)**