

OCTOBER 20

“THE SECRET TO WALKING WITH JESUS IS TO GET YOUR MIND OFF YOURSELF.”

READ

Philippians 3:8-11, Titus 3:3-5

Peter never responded to anything the way you thought he should. His focus was on what he could do for Jesus, rather than what Jesus came to do for him. Every time Peter failed, he got depressed and wanted to quit. This was a pattern for Peter and perhaps for us, too. One of the obstacles to our growth in Christ is this thought that's been pounded into us, that we need to be usable, useful. Our relationship with God becomes all about what we can do for Him. But the secret to walking with Jesus is to get your mind off yourself. The best day of your life will be when you say, “I have no confidence in myself.” Jesus is looking for those empty of self, and those who only want Him. It cannot be about you, your work, your efforts or your accomplishments. The apostle Paul didn't say, “That I may work for Him,” but, “That I may know Him!” Out of knowing and loving comes the divine work — effortless, productive, eternal work. I'm not blessed because I labor for the Lord with my hands, but because I love the Lord with my heart and He dwells in me. Where He dwells, things always happen.

PRAY

I do want to know You, Lord — in the power of Your resurrection and in the fellowship of Your suffering. I am crucified with Christ. I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.

From October 20, 2014