WOMAN - TO - WOMAN MENTORING

WIDSOM IN ACTION - BLESSED TO SERVE Closing Devotion

Reading: Ephesians 5:8 – "For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light."

Devotion: Paul is talking about the Christian life; the life of sanction; the life lived through Jesus Christ. He identifies Jesus as the example to follow and then encourages these Ephesian Christians and us as well, to "Walk as children of light." He begins chapter 5 with these words – "Therefore be imitators of God … and walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us … "(Eph. 5:1-2).

Christ's example again and again was one of serving – He washes the disciple's feet and then tells them, "For I have given you an example that you also should do just as I have done to you" (John 13:15). Paul writes to the Philippians Christians, "Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus..." (Phil.2:5) and goes on to describe His obedience "even to death on a cross!" (Phil. 2:8). Christ's life of love transforms us from darkness into children of light by faith to reflect His Light in the world.

And when we fail as we often do, it is His loving obedience that earns God's mercy and forgiveness for us.

Christ is our perfect Mentor, and by the Spirit's power we become mentors for others as we witness His love to others – Christ lives through the life of the believer. Proverbs 13:20 says "He who walks with the wise becomes wise ... " Remembering the definition of mentor – a "wise and trusted monitor or counselor" – in Christ we see true wisdom and we, in turn, reflect His wisdom. Paul writes to Timothy, "But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus" (2 Tim. 3:14-15). As children of God we are truly blessed to serve, mentoring to others by living our Christian lives through Christ, led by the Spirit.

Prayer: Father, it is Your desire that we follow Christ's example of humble service – inspire and enable us to live in love as we serve others in Your name. May we glorify You in all we do, as we walk in this world empowered as children of light by Your Holy Spirit. We ask this in the name of our Perfect Mentor, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Song: Serve the Lord With Gladness (*LWML*)