

MOVEMENTS 2: GOD'S LOVE IN ACTION

Petitionary Prayer: *I ask my Lord for the graces to experience the awe and wonder of the reality of God's creation; and for an increase in gratitude for the gift of God creating me, my loved ones, and the whole world.*

Prayer 1. Read Genesis 1:1-19 (God said, "Let there be light")

For Reflection: Let the work of God's creation play out in your imagination. What do you see and hear? What was God like in His act of creating? Picture yourself right there with God and notice what happens inside you.

Prayer 2. Read Genesis 1:20-25 (God looked at everything He made, and found it good)

For Reflection: Consider how God delights in His creation. In using God's gift of imagination, see how God was working as He gathered all of the waters. What images come to mind as I witness God's creative activity? What is that experience like seeing it all unfold?

Prayer 3. Read Genesis 1:26-31, 2:1-4a (The Lord God formed man out of dust)

For Reflection: Imagine being there with God the Father, creating you, forming you, and breathing into you, your very life. What does God's breath feel like? What feelings arise? Spend some time imagining God gazing in delight upon all He created. What is that like for you?

Prayer 4. Read Psalms 8 (How awesome is Your name)

For Reflection: What words of David speak for you? What thoughts, images, memories, feelings, and emotions spring forth from within you?

Prayer 5. Read Psalms 104 (Bless the Lord, my soul!)

For Reflection: Where have you seen God's continuing creativity in creation, in yourself, and in others? Where do I notice his continued presence in the created world around me? Where have I rejoiced in the Lord today?

Prayer 6. Repetition: Select from the previous scriptures to pray with again. Choose from those that brought movements in prayer. Consolations: being lifted up, felt presence of God. Desolations: struggle, dryness, uncomfortable, a felt sense of a distance from God.

For Reflection: What about God's creation reminds me of God's love and care? When have I felt God's faithfulness in my life? How does God's creative presence in my life overflow into my relationships?

Prayer Period Gathering the Graces: Review and savor God's gifts to you. Make notes for sharing with your spiritual director or your faith-sharing group.

Additional Scripture: Psalms 33 (The Lord's word is true), Sirach 33:13 (Hands of the Creator), Psalms 100 (The Lord, our Maker)