

"EARTH, WIND, & FIRE" WEEKLY REFLECTION JOURNAL

July 3: Conflicted

In the first 300 years of Christianity, there were at least 10 periods of systematic persecution, when it was illegal to be a Christian. Followers of Christ risked imprisonment, losing their property, even death. Yet, as one leader put it at the time, "the more you kill us, the more we grow." What was it that caused these followers of Christ to live with such courage, holding to their principles, to their faith, in the face of danger and opposition? Our courage comes from Jesus Christ, the one who suffered and lost all in order to deliver and rescue us from the powers of sin, death, and evil. In Him we are safe, in him we have courage, and, when we are weak and afraid, He continues to love and care for us without fail.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS: Pick one reading each day to study and reflect on God's word and your life. If you miss a day, or a week, give yourself grace and keep trying.

- Acts 5:1-11
- Acts 5:12-16
- Acts 5:17-25
- Acts 5:26-40
- Acts 5:41-42
- 2 Timothy 3:12
- Romans 8:15-16

Daily Journal

Look Up. Look In. Look Around.

Begin with 2 minutes of silence

Daily Bible Reading

As you read through the passage, write down your reflections from the following questions.

• SCRIPTURE:

What does this verse say about God, me, others? Any commands, promises, warnings, wisdom? What words or phrases stand out?

OBSERVATIONS:

What am I mad/angry about?

What am I feeling sad about?

What am I feeling anxious about?

What am I glad/happy about?

• APPLICATIONS:

If the truths of the readings were alive in my life, how would it change me?

• PRAYER:

Based on all of these thoughts, what and who should I be talking to God about today?