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Weekly Devotional

I Need Thee!

by Mark A. Segraves

Although I grew up reading the King James Version of the Bible, I have recently become a fan of several contemporary translations (by the way, the KJV was contemporary in 1611). I like the New International Version, the New American Standard Bible, the New King James Version and the New Living Translation. I even enjoy reading The Message, although I fully understand it is a loose paraphrase and should be read as such. As much as I appreciate the newer translations, I still take pleasure in the Elizabethan English of the KJV.

For the past few days, I have been thinking and praying about the health challenges my family is facing and I have “awakened” from these moments of intercession to hear myself singing an old hymn written as if it were intended for the KJV. These are just a few of the words...

*I need Thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine can peace afford.*

*I need Thee, O I need Thee;
Every hour I need Thee;
O bless me now, my Savior,
I come to Thee.*

I was sitting in my chair last night listening to someone on the Word Network singing those words with as much passion and sincerity as I've been feeling lately when I heard Robin say, “I've been singing that all day!” (I'll admit we were both crying a little.)

Such powerful words. I need Thee! Three words. Like the Syrophenician woman who fervently and worshipfully said to Jesus, “Lord, help me!” It's a simple prayer, but it bridges time, eternity and space to bring together the God of the universe and the person in need. Jesus couldn't resist the woman's simple faith and He won't be able to resist yours! You can continue trying to deal with your stuff in your own strength, but the fastest way to see change happen and to find the peace you need is to stop, focus on Him for one moment and say, “I need Thee!”

Prayer: *I need Thee, O I need Thee; Every hour I need Thee; bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee!*

Point to Ponder: What or Who is it we really need? The answer to that question should put everything else in perspective.



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