

The Leader's Journey

Introductory Prayer

DEAR GOD,
You have called me to lead --
There are times when I just don't feel up
to the task.

I look into the eyes of my colleague
And think "Why me?"
Do I deserve their trust?"
Help me to know that
I am doing Your will
Give me the sense of peace
that is born of knowing that
You are with me.
Give me the sense of faith
That is born of giving up
my will to You.
Give me the sense of love
That is born of forgiveness
and communion.

Dear Jesus,
may I always remember that You are my leader -
You are my rod and my strength on this journey.
--Les Miller

Psalm of the Road

MY BEAUTIFUL FRIEND,

You are the Map, but more;
You are also the Road and the Way!



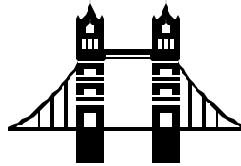
*Lord, You are my rod and my strength
on this journey...*

You are the Lover's Lane
With unknown twists,
With turns round every bend.

As I travel with You, my Beloved,
I know the feel of bumps in the road
As well as the pain of being trod upon
By careless or self-serving life-travelers.

Yet, my heart explodes
With joy ecstatic,
Simply knowing I am a cobblestone
Of You, the Way.

- Edward Hays



Take Nothing for the Journey

Then Jesus called the twelve together ... and he
sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and
to heal. He said to them, *"Take nothing for your
journey. . . ."*

- Luke 9:1-6

Heal and Proclaim...

Were the twelve afraid?
Did they wonder if they could do those
things? Compared to the quality of your
ministry, did they feel inadequate and
unworthy?
What persuaded them to go?
Your words?
Your friendship? Their enthusiasm?
Your deep belief that they could do it?

And you said:
"Take nothing for the journey."
What did you mean?
Trust or more than trust?
Did you perhaps imply that we can't
wait until we have all the possible
things we need?

That we can't postpone
"doing" until we are
positive of our talents?
That we can't hold off our
commitment
until we are absolutely sure
we won't make a
mistake?

I think of all the excuses and
reasons we can give for not
serving and giving:
no time, no talent,
no knowledge,
no energy, no assured
results.
You say, "Take nothing".
Don't worry about your
inadequacies.
I will provide for you.
Go! Just go!
Go with my power.

--Joyce Rupp



Petitions



For our damaged planet moving through the heavens. May our footsteps be ones of healing rather than harm, we pray ...

All: Lord, be our guide

For our pilgrim Church journeying ever closer to full communion in the Kingdom, we pray ...

All: Lord, be our guide

For those of us who travel together who are confused or sick or lonely, we pray ...

All: Lord, be our guide

For our companions on the journey: priests, teachers, parents and students. May our journey unite rather than divide, We pray ...

All: Lord, be our guide

For our hearts and souls, may our journey become a pilgrimage deeper into Your loving arms, we pray ...

All: Lord, be our guide

-Les Miller

Lord's Prayer

OUR FATHER ...



Thomas Merton's Prayer



MY LORD GOD, I have no idea
where I am going.
I do not see the road ahead of me.
I cannot know for certain where it will end.

Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I
think that I am following Your will does not mean
that I am actually doing so.
But I believe that the desire to please You does
in fact please You.

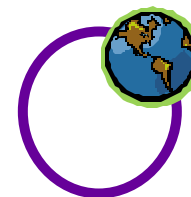
And I hope I have that desire in all that I am
doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart
from that desire. And I know that if I do this,
You will lead me by the right road though I may
know nothing about it.

Therefore will I trust You always, though I may
seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.
I will not fear, for You are ever with me,
and You will never leave me to face my perils
alone.



Compiled by Les Miller and Melinda Rapallo
York Catholic District School Board

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