

Gilly's Quiet Garden

Inner strength
for the outer journey

Here I am..

“Here I am, wholly available; as for me, I will serve the Lord”

Can I say, honestly, that I am wholly available,
or am I holding something back?

“Fan into a flame the gift the God gave you.” 2 Timothy 1:6

What gift/gifts am I aware of that God has given to me?
Do I need to nurture this gift, these gifts?

As Christians we are promised that the Holy Spirit will be our helper,
will never leave us to do things by ourselves.

When we use the gifts that God has given us we are given
the power we need.

How willing am I to offer this gift, these gifts to God?

Am I giving myself the space and time to consider these things?

*Spend some time in quiet conversation with God,
being honest with Him about any struggles you may have.*

Do I need to clear something out of my diary in order to spend a
longer time seeking God's will?

Henri Nouwen, in his excellent book 'The Selfless Way of Christ' wrote these words:

*"The Spirit is the breath of Christ in us,
the divine power of Christ active in us,
the mysterious source of new vitality by which we are made aware
that it is not we who live, but Christ who lives in us (cf. Galatians 2.20).*

*Indeed, to live a spiritual life means to become living Christs
.....to be living Christs here and now, in time and history".*

He goes on to say: *"During the past twenty centuries
many Christians have heard this radical call
and have responded to it in true obedience.*

*Some became hermits in the desert,
while others became servants in the city.*

*Some went to distant lands as preachers, teachers, and healers,
while others remained where they were,
raised families and worked faithfully.*

*Some became famous, while others remained unknown.
Although their responses reveal an extraordinary diversity,
these Christians all heard the call to follow Christ without compromise."*

Have I heard this call?

Am I willing to allow God to use me *without compromise?*

"Fan into a flame the gift that God gave you."

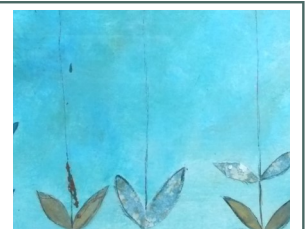
Is God speaking to you now?

Do you feel affirmed? Or maybe confused!

You may like to print off one of the flame images, or draw your own,
and write some words on it.

If you feel God is telling you something specific it may help to talk to
someone about it.

I encourage you to treat these reflections prayerfully,
taking time to consider the thoughts and questions within the
context of your own life. If you are in the habit of
keeping a journal do use that to help your responses.



I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin,
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them,
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them
Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide,
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them,
Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.

Song Lyrics by Daniel Schutte

Here I am, wholly available
As for me, I will serve the Lord
Here I am, wholly available
As for me, I will serve the Lord

The fields are white unto harvest
But O, the labourers are so few
So Lord, I give myself to help the reaping
To gather precious souls unto You

The time is right in the nation
For works of power and authority
God's looking for a people who are willing
To be counted in His glorious victory

As salt are we ready to savour?
In darkness are we ready to be light?
God's seeking out a very special people
To manifest His truth and His might

Song Lyrics by Chris Bowater



