

"Along-the-Way" Conversations

Psalm 16, New Living Translation

I love reading Psalm 16 and meditating on its beautiful verses. There are so many wonderful truths contained in its lines:

"Lord, You alone are my inheritance, my cup of blessing. You guard all that is mine" (v. 5).

"I know the Lord is always with me. I will not be shaken, for He is right beside me" (v. 8).

"You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of Your presence and the pleasures of living with You forever" (v. 11).

These are the usual verses from Psalm 16 that capture my attention and end up being highlighted and underlined in every Bible I have used. But last week as I was re-reading this familiar psalm, I didn't get very far; verse two unexpectedly stopped me in my tracks. I sensed that the Holy Spirit was about to drop a fresh revelation into my heart, so I began pondering David's words:

"I said to the Lord, 'You are my Master! Every good thing I have comes from You.' "

"I said to the Lord..."

David is just recording his natural, "along-the-way" conversation with God. I thought about *my* "along-the-way" conversations with the Lord, as I throw out prayers to Him during the day. They don't generally look like David's. To be sure, I spend quiet time in His presence soaking up His Word, worshiping Him and talking with Him. But David's simple words "I said to the Lord" created in my mind the image of a friend's spontaneous expression of love and gratitude towards another dear friend as they're out spending the day together. Though I'm generally talking with the Lord throughout my day too, my communications usually involve crying out to Him for help or sending up a quick intercessory prayer for someone else's need. Those are indeed important prayers; yet David's words suddenly struck my heart with conviction. How often do I call out to Him words like "You are my Master! Every good thing I have comes from You!"? How often during my daily routine do words that praise Him for who He is roll off my tongue as a spontaneous expression, bubbling up out of a soul that cannot contain its joy and gratitude?

This is my new challenge, and I am reminded of it often now as I walk through each day. I want my "along-the-way" conversations with to look more like Psalm 16:2.