

# MORNING MEDITATION

Thursday, Fifth Week of Lent

**Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,  
your faithfulness to the clouds.**

(Psalm 36:5)

## Genesis 17:3-9

Abraham had to uproot himself from the old culture and give humanity a new start. He had to be renamed, go through “radical change”, to become the father of a “multitude”. Through this process, he would achieve the “immortality” which the builders of Babel desired: his soul would expand and grow in his descendants who would influence the world. But it was God who was doing it and Abraham just had to be faithful, obedient.

**Be open to change! But be obedient! Be faithful!**

## Psalm 105

**Give thanks to the Lord, invoke his name;  
Make known among the nations his deeds.  
Sing to him, sing his praise; proclaim all his wondrous deeds.**

## John 8:51-59

“If anyone keeps my word, he will not see death for ever”. “keeping the word” refers to faithfulness, obedience born out of intimate relationship. The person who is faithful to the “Word” has entered into an intimate relationship with God, a relationship which neither time nor eternity can sever - death has lost its finality. He does not move from life to death, but from life to life, death is only the welcome into the fullness of life, into the intimate “presence of God”. **Keep the word! Be faithful! And don’t forget, honor your word as well!**

Jesus claims a unique knowledge of God. He claims to know God as no one else has ever known or ever will. In and through Jesus we come to the very “heart” of God. In him we see our God made visible. In Jesus, we see a “unique obedience” to God. In Jesus we come to know and understand the real meaning and value of “obedience”. In him, we come to know what God wants us to be and to do. **Discipleship demands obedience! Fidelity and Obedience show strength of character.**

**In you, the world around you must see signs of the presence of a loving, caring, compassionate God.**

## **Saint of the Day, March 30 - St. Peter Regalado and 14 other saints are remembered this day**

Peter Regalado was born of wealthy and devout parents at Valladolid in Spain in 1390. He lost his father at an early age. At the age of 13, he was allowed to enter the Conventual Franciscans. Shortly after his ordination, he was made superior of the friary in Aguilar. He became part of a group of friars who wanted to lead a life of greater poverty and penance. In 1442, he was appointed head of all the Spanish Franciscans in his reform group.

Peter led the friars by his example. A special love of the poor and the sick characterized Peter. Miraculous stories are told about his charity to the poor. For example, the bread never seemed to run out as long as Peter had hungry people to feed. Throughout most of his life, Peter went hungry; he lived only on bread and water. Immediately after his death on March 31, 1456, his grave became a place of pilgrimage. Peter was canonized in 1746.

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