

Never let these longings somehow become a good work to earn God's favor. Let all be purely for Him, and to Him, and through Him. Let our focus be always on Him.

We can't fill our own spiritual tank. We don't even have one. He alone has the supply and the means to deliver. He is Himself the reservoir from which we must receive ever and always.

“For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory forever. Amen.” –Romans 11:36

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When Your Spiritual Gas Tank Reads EMPTY*

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Spend more time with God, though you may be tempted to spend less.

This is the time to wait patiently for God.

Whether you are just a beginner terribly aware of your sinfulness and spiritual inadequacy, or you've been seeking the Lord for some time and are now in a state of disappointment, the problem is basically the same. God's purpose in permitting it is basically the same, and to some extent so is the solution.

It's always God's purpose to bring us to the end of ourselves so He may be All.

To this our old fleshly nature replies, “Never!”

WHEN YOUR SPIRITUAL GAS TANK READS EMPTY

But, being freed from its dominion, we run to Christ our Deliverer.

And we offer Him the praise, and worship, and honor, and glory of which he alone is worthy.

We must agree with Him in His purpose to remove our focus from ourselves and place it where it belongs, on Him. We can meditate on Him, His work for us, His divine attributes, His Word where it speaks of Him, and so forth. We can seek to wait quietly before Him to permit Him to do His work in us without our interference.

THE GREATER THE DESIRE, THE GREATER THE EMPTINESS MAY BE

Now, this awesome sense of spiritual emptiness of which we speak may not strike the one who is content with a prayer life that consists of begging God for His blessing on the things of this life.

It is especially when we seek more of Him, or even of His transformation of our lives, that disappointment plagues us. And the greater the sincerity the greater may be the disappointment.

Then, seek Him for Himself alone, not for any feeling. Do it in rest and peace, accepting what He sends your way without question.

LONG FOR WHAT HE LONGS FOR, FOR YOU

If worship, and waiting, and seeking Him leave you still feeling empty, you may from time to time find blessed encouragement in allowing yourself to long aloud, as it were, for God to:

- draw you to Himself in love.
- set you free to respond to Him.
- enable you to trust Him more fully.
- enable you to gladly sacrifice to Him everything that stands in His way.
- cause you to despise your fleshly self.

- make you willing to repent, yield to Him, and obey Him.
- lead you to depend on Him for all.
- remove all impediments to your receiving Him and His gracious work within.
- make you willing to be relieved of all things and endure whatever pain might be necessary to the removal of the selfish separation from Him and His will which is the awful cause of the real difficulties you endure.

Share with the Holy Spirit in the “groanings which cannot be uttered.” Long in earnest pleadings for Him to accomplish this necessary work.

REST ALWAYS IN HIM ALONE IN PEACE

But then return to seeking Him in rest and peace, knowing that it is He alone Who must do all the work, and that the more still we hold under the knife, the more He can do for us.