

# Daily Prayer

MONDAY, JULY 6

Today's prayer is based on I Timothy 1.6-7, ESV.

*Certain persons, by swerving from these,*  
[love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.]

Father in heaven,

Thank you for preserving through the ages

Paul's summary of what it means

to be a good steward of your truth and the faith:

LOVE from a PURE HEART, GOOD CONSCIENCE and SINCERE FAITH.

Please guard me by your Spirit.

Only *YOU* can love through me,

purifying my heart, cleaning my conscience and building my faith.

Keep me from losing focus on this, the bedrock of what it means to trust you for *life*.

Give me sensitivity to issues of my heart,

assurance in my conscience and growing faith.

Make my radar sensitive for identifying those who also walk by faith -

and those who are missing the point.

*have wandered away into vain discussion,*

Lord, in the first place, keep me from drifting off of your truth

into the pointlessness of this world's so-called "knowledge";

and give me ears to hear it when those who claim to be 'teachers' of your truth

have lost their way.

*desiring to be teachers of the law,*

Lord, I suppose the modern equivalent of *teacher of the law*

would be today's pastors or other prominent teachers -

those who handle your truth and are in position to instruct others in your way.

Lord, forgive those pastors of our day who have fallen into empty speaking.

Turn their hearts back to the fire of your truth.

Help me to tell the difference between wanting to tell people off and "fix" them -

and graciously pointing them to your words that give life.

*without understanding either what they are saying or*

Lord, I pray that you would help me understand your truth rightly,

and that you would guard me from those who really do not understand

but who think they speak for you.

*the things about which they make confident assertions.*

Lord, many years ago one of your wiser servants taught me:

"The danger in believing in absolutes - is in becoming an absolutist!"

Preserve me from making statements beyond what is given to know.

Help me remember with humility that in me,  
your truth is carried in a very fallible vessel.  
Keep me from being wowed by bravado.  
Give me understanding of your Word of Truth that is  
solid, consistent, accurate and timeless,  
for Jesus and His kingdom's sake. Amen.

personalized by ptc

If we grow wiser and more learned in our conversation with wise and learned persons, how  
much more will we gain in our inner life by communing with God in prayer.

- Huldrych Zwingli