

Tuesday - March 8

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16 (CSB)

We all have had uniquely different faith journeys as we made our way through this life. We may have found ourselves in periods of doubt, feeling moments of anxiety, battling desperation and hurdling over challenges that come our way with the storms of daily life. Thanks be to God for the grace he has offered us through our faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

My faith journey had its up and downs and even a period I call my time of “indifference.” I was going to church on a regular basis, but I wasn’t truly engaged in my faith in a meaningful way. Work was stressful, we were living in a new location and I found myself challenging my priorities and looking for some meaningful purpose in my life. I was on a long drive home from a business trip and to pass the time, I was playing a new CD by an artist named, Van Morrison. I had several Van Morrison songs I enjoyed, but I never knew he had authored spiritual songs. A song entitled “Whenever God Shines His Light” comes on and I am listening to the music and not paying attention to the lyrics when it gets to the refrain “Reach out for him.” Those words caught my attention and I pushed replay with my ears now focused on the lyrics. The song now had my full attention and I listened with much greater intent and quickly found myself singing along. That song created an awakening in my faith and has now become one of my favorite Van Morrison tunes. As I look back on that drive home, I now realize that God was speaking to me that night and offering me the purpose I was seeking.

In closing, I would like to share the song’s first verse as prayer for us all.

Whenever God shines his light on me

Opens up my eyes so I can see

When I look up in the darkest night

And I know everything’s going to be alright

In deep confusion, in great despair

When I reach out for him, he is there

When I am lonely as I can be

And I know that God shines his light on me

Amen.

Alex