Rely on the Wonderful Counselor (Verses in Colossians 1 & 2) Bill Gaultiere ~ Lectio Divina Guides ~ SoulShepherding.org

Guidelines: Protect confidentiality and follow the leader's prompts

Lectio Divina Rhythms/Process (Repeat three times):

- (a) Read the Scripture passage ("Lectio")
- (b) Reflect on the focus question below ("Meditatio")
- (c) Respond in quiet prayer/journaling ("Oratio")
- (d) Rest in God's invitation for you then pray/share out loud if you want ("Contemplatio")

Introduction: When we're tired or hurting we may turn to a comfort food, distract ourselves or get busy. When we don't know what to do to solve a problem we may worry or seek advice from a friend. When someone needs our care or wisdom we do our best to help. Do we turn to Jesus in these situations? Privately in prayer? Through a Christ's ambassador? How long does it take before we think to put our confidence in the supremacy of Christ? Always the risen Christ is the Wonderful Counselor (Is. 9:6) in our midst if only we'd notice and put our confidence in him. He is the Lord over creation and redemption who in love holds together our hearts, our relationships, and our mission. In him are hidden all treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Opening Prayer: "Christ in [me], the hope of glory... Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Col. 1:27).

Read Scripture: Colossians (NIV84)

1: 15 [Jesus Christ] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. 19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross...

2: 3 ... In [Christ] are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge...

9 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, 10 and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.

1st Reading: What is one word or phrase the Holy Spirit impresses on you? Meditate on that.

2nd Reading: What is a hurt or a challenge that you personally need the Wonderful Counselor to help you with you? Picture yourself in that situation and then look to Jesus. Write down a prayer or pray quietly.

3rd Reading: Who especially needs your care or wisdom right now? Picture yourself with him or her in that situation and then look to Jesus. Write down a prayer or pray quietly.