

WALKING WITH ANGELS

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THE LORD'S FLOCK GROW DIGEST

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The first prayer our parents taught us was the traditional "Angel of God." It is a well-known Christian prayer asking our guardian angel for daily protection and guidance (Psalm 91:11). Angels are celestial beings with intellect and will. They are powerful bearers of divine will. They have identities inseparable from their mission: to guide us, to bring us to God, and lead us to heaven. These are the marks of discipleship: we are called, shaped, and sent.

Three Movements of Angelic Life that we can emulate:

1. SERVICE. Angels are sent.

1.1. Service means being available to God. The servant asks, "What does the Master want?" The heart of service is availability: setting aside our preferences, timetables so that God's purposes can move through us freely. This is the call of Christian vocation: the priest/religious shepherds the flock, the parents give without counting the cost.

1.2. Serving without recognition. The angels serve without affirmation, return, or applause. Genuine service is hidden, selfless, and given freely. The mission is shaped by the ONE who is sending.

1.3. Service as mission and obedience. The angels do not choose their assignments; they receive them. True service begins with our availability to God's sending. We ask not "What can I do for God?" rather, "Where is God sending me?" True leaders have crosses to bear in their desire to serve God.

2. WORSHIP. Angels are perpetually oriented to God.

2.1. Heaven revolves around God. Worship turns outward toward God, truth, others. In contrast, sin curves inward (self-satisfaction/convenience). Sabbath is rest and worship in God's presence. Mass is the peak of faith but living the faith every day is the landscape of true worship.

2.2. Worship must have an acceptable sacrifice (Jesus). We let God decide our service; otherwise, the self becomes the false idol.

2.2 The angels teach us awe. Before God's throne, the angels are captured by His glory. Every mass is a glimpse of heavenly worship: the angels and saints are there. The veil between heaven and earth grows thin at the altar. When we lose our awe, we are not in the presence of God. Let us have a childlike attitude of wonder and awe (Matt 18:3).

2.3 Worship reorders our priorities. Living in state of grace means God is the center of our life; everything else finds their proper place. Career becomes a vocation, not identity; relationships are ordered by love, not by need.

3. INTIMACY. Angels have perpetual intimacy with God.

3.1 Intimacy is the source of service. The angels serve from an unbroken communion with God; Their actions flow from their adoration. Jesus Himself withdrew to pray before every mission/decision.

3.2 Living in God's presence. The angels remind us of God's presence amid our difficulties, celebration, temptation, suffering, and silence.

4. The Archangels. Michael's power is humility. If we are bothered by pride, call him. Gabriel is the angel of proclamation; he delivers the Word and steps aside. Rafael means "God heals." He accompanies and stays for the journey.

Conclusion: These three movements are not separate; they are ONE LIFE, lived whole. The angel who serves, returns to worship. The angel who worships is sent to serve. The angel who abides does both from a place of intimate belonging. Hence, to be angelic, let us serve, worship, abide.

Reflection: Do you live with awareness of God's presence. How will you re-connect with your guardian angel?

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