Forty Days:  
A Devotional Companion for the Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela

“Stand at the crossroads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way lies; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls.” Jeremiah 6:16.

Bible verses selected by Gary T. Johnson for the pilgrimage journey, beginning one week before the departure.
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This book can be printed from:


The author’s resources on the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, including a one-year devotional approach to the pilgrimage entitled “The Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela: A Closer Walk,” can be found at:

http://gryjhnsn.tripod.com/santiago/
**Introduction**

I visited Santiago de Compostela as a tourist in December 2000. I was gripped by the spiritual atmosphere of this town in the northwest corner of Spain, and resolved to return as a pilgrim. This pamphlet is a devotional aid for the pilgrimage I hope to make in the company of friends, both from the United States and from Spain. May it be of use to anyone planning to follow the road to Santiago — *el camino*, whether as a pilgrim or as someone open to learn more about the faith that has inspired and led pilgrims.

Even as a tourist, joining those who had arrived from around the world at the pilgrim's mass in the cathedral was a moving experience for me. Representatives from different language groups offered prayers. I had seen some cathedrals empty of worshipers in Europe, but dozens of rows in the Santiago Cathedral were filled. Some present wore the traditional hat of the Santiago pilgrimage. Some carried the pilgrim's cane. Many bore a shell, representing the town's location near the Atlantic coast in Galicia. There were travelers with backpacks who must have just stepped off the road and into the church. As it happened, the day I visited was a feast day, and mass ended with the use of the *botafumeiro*, the massive incense burner that requires eight men to swing it above the heads of the worshipers.

My visit to Santiago de Compostela had an immediate effect on my spiritual life. I spent a weekend alone in that city, and I returned to the cathedral again and again to pray. Even when I arrived early in the morning and had corners of the cathedral to myself, I felt surrounded and uplifted by the prayers of the pilgrims past and present. I found myself praying for more than I had ever prayed for before, without shyness and without hesitation. I became hungry for more, thinking of new topics and returning again and again.

Below the main floor of the cathedral is a Roman-era sarcophagus. When discovered during the ninth century, it was hailed as holding the remains of the Apostle James the Great — "Santiago." The Apostles had been witnesses even "to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8), and local traditions had preserved reports that Saint James had preached as far away as Spain before he returning to Jerusalem, where he was "killed by the sword" (Acts 12:2). Medieval legend held that his body miraculously had been returned to the land where he had preached. I can testify that this chapel is a spiritually charged place, as pilgrims have discovered for centuries.

I also joined the line of worshipers who climb the stairs behind the high altar to pass behind the great golden statue of Saint James. This stream is visible at all times when the cathedral is open, including during religious services. Everyone embraces the statue from behind. When I did this myself, the feeling was evocative. It recalled a child hanging onto a parent's neck, a safe and secure feeling of being borne that we all can remember. It brought to mind the image of Christ as the good shepherd, bearing a lost sheep on his shoulders. There is a color picture of that scene indelibly etched in my mind from the first Bible given to me by a beloved great-aunt. Later on, I
considered how much deeper the feeling of being borne by a good shepherd must be to an actual pilgrim at the end of a long physical journey.

The resolution was made, but how to prepare? I searched for a book of daily Bible readings selected with this pilgrimage in mind that would offer structure and companionship for the interior part of the journey. There are many books in print on the Santiago pilgrimage, but I was not able to find the kind of devotional I had in mind. I decided to compile one myself, as preparation for my friends and myself.

The writing would be based on both the spiritual significance and physical facts. A pilgrimage has three parts: the preparation, the journey and the impact on the life of the pilgrim. The journey itself is the most intense part of the three, but not the only part. All are connected. The journey itself will be more meaningful following the right preparation. The impact will be greatest if reaching the pilgrimage site is a climax, but not a conclusion to a faith journey.

A pilgrimage reminds us that life is not only about the destination, it is about the journey. Yes, Santiago de Compostela is a beautiful city, and the intensity of joining prayers with those of other pilgrims for more than 1,000 years is overwhelming, but a pilgrimage is not the destination alone. Christ appeared on the road to Emmaus. He walked and talked with them and told his companions of the kingdom of God. It was on the journey that they encountered Christ.

A journey across the top of Spain is not a stroll in the park, it takes dedication and can itself become an act of worship. There are many opportunities for prayer along the way, both with others on the road and in solitary withdrawals. The many churches and monasteries on the road have been visited by worshipping pilgrims over the centuries. This journey as an act of worship is reminiscent of other scenes, most notably the annual journeys of the people of Israel to Jerusalem, with the chanting of psalms, including special songs for ascending the holy mountain.

A pilgrimage journey is the most graphic reminder we can have that our life as a whole is a pilgrimage. Each of us is on a journey with God, and a journey to God. We spend a few weeks on the road so that we can understand better that we are strangers in a strange land. We always are in need of food and water -- the material kind and the spiritual kind. We seek companionship -- with each other and with God. We rely both on our physical and mental conditioning.

My brief visit to Santiago also brought home certain facts of life. It rains a lot, in every season but especially during the cold months of the year. Like Jerusalem itself, the city is situated on a hill, and there are hills along the way to Santiago. The roads leading to the city go through villages and towns and past farms and pastures. Old bridges and narrow stone pathways remain, many originally built for pilgrims. We no longer draw water from wells, but finding fresh water remains essential, even if from bottles. The pilgrim's nagging fear at the end of a long day's travel is that there will be "no room at the inn."
The pamphlet is written with 40 days in mind, 40 days that will include the actual journey, but also will include devotions for short periods before and after the journey. There are two Bible passage for each day beginning one week before the actual departure on the camino. There also are some extra selections at the end of the book.

It may not be possible for you to make an actual pilgrimage. If you cannot make the journey, you might even choose imaginary departure and arrival days, and follow the recommended texts. Remember that the journey is meant to be a reminder that life itself is a pilgrimage. This sense will grow in you, if you read the selections for forty days from the viewpoint of a pilgrim.

I thought it would be a relatively easy matter to choose the Bible passages most appropriate for a pilgrimage, but I was wrong. Pilgrimage themes, images and figures are everywhere in the Bible: themes such as travel, sustenance, guidance, exile and deliverance; imagery such as roads, mountains, bread and water; and figures such as shepherds and lost sheep, are dominant in the Bible. To my surprise, I even found that the Bible is filled with references to the foot! I might be so bold as to say that the Bible as a whole is written from the perspective of the pilgrim.

This pamphlet is not meant to replace devotional aids that are guided by the liturgical year. It certainly is no substitute for attendance at church, with readings set by the lectionaries used in Christian denominations. Nevertheless, I decided that the perspective of the pilgrim over a 40-day period has a rhythm of its own. My choices are personal. The Bible readings are simply that -- excerpts with no commentary.

The illustrations come from along the camino, and especially from the city of Santiago de Compostela. Explanations and credits for the illustrations are in the Notes and Sources, so as to avoid distraction from the Biblical texts themselves.

I am particularly grateful to the Instituto Cervantes, which is the source of most of the illustrations, for its permission to use them in this book. They are posted on the website of this Spanish cultural body that promotes the teaching of the Spanish language and the understanding of the cultures of Spain and the Spanish-speaking world. On that website, the photographs can be viewed in their original context and formatting, with very high production values. I strongly recommend those interested in the camino to visit The “Centro Virtual Cervantes”:

http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/

I wish you every success on the camino de Santiago. May you experience your pilgrimage to its fullest. May you prepare yourself well and may there be a lasting impact in your life.

Gary T. Johnson,
Evanston, Illinois
January 2003
Selections for Six Days Before Departure

(Ezekiel 34) 11 For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. 12 As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13 I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them…. 31 You are my sheep, the sheep of my pasture and I am your God, says the Lord GOD.

Selections Beginning One Week Before Departure on Actual Pilgrimage

(Genesis 12) 1 Now the LORD said to Abram, ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you.’

(Psalm 39) 7 "And now, O Lord, what do I wait for? My hope is in you. 8 Deliver me from all my transgressions…. 12 Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; do not hold your peace at my tears. For I am your passing guest, an alien, like all my forebears.

(Psalm 23) 1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; 3 he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake. 4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.
Selections for Five Days Before Departure

(Psalm 139) 1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me. 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. 3 You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. 4 Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely. 5 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. 7 Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in She`ol, you are there. 9 If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, 10 even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night," 12 even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you. 13 For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. 15 My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. 16 Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. 17 How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! 18 I try to count them--they are more than the sand; I come to the end--I am still with you…. 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.

24 See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

(Psalm 139) 24 ....and lead me in the way everlasting.

(2 Corinthians 13) 5 Examine yourselves to see whether you are living in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not realize that Jesus Christ is in you?--unless, indeed, you fail to meet the test! 6 I hope you will find out that we have not failed.
Selections for Four Days Before Departure

**James 4** 8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts....

**Psalm 1** 1 Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; 2 but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night. 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

Selections for Three Days Before Departure

**Luke 1** 38 Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

**Psalm 143** 5 I remember the days of old, I think about all your deeds, I meditate on the works of your hands. 6 I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.... 8 Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning, for in you I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.... 10 Teach me to do your will, for you are my God. Let your good spirit lead me on a level path. 11 For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life. In your righteousness bring me out of trouble....

**Psalm 1** 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season....

**Psalm 143** 6 [M]y soul thirsts for you like a parched land....
Selections for Two Days Before Departure

(Ephesians 3) 16 I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, 17 and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. 18 I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

(Psalm 8) 1 O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. 2 Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger. 3 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; 4 what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? 5 Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. 6 You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, 7 all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, 8 the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas. 9 O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Selections for the Eve of Departure on the Actual Pilgrimage

(Jeremiah 6) 16 Thus says the LORD: Stand at the crossroads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way lies; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls.…

(Psalm 32) 8 I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. 9 Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you. 10 Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD. 11 Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

(Psalm 32) 9 Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding…. 
Selections for Day of Departure on Actual Pilgrimage

(Isaiah 6) 8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

(Psalm 139) 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.

(Psalm 121) I lift up my eyes to the hills-- from where will my help come? 2 My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. 3 He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. 4 He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. 5 The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand. 6 The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. 7 The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. 8 The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

(Psalm 121) I will lift up my eyes to the hills ....
Selections for Day 2 on the Pilgrimage

(John 1) 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. 6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. 8 He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. 9 The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. 12 But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. 14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

(John 1) 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

(Psalm 148) 1 Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights! 2 Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! 3 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars! 4 Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! 5 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created. 6 He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed. 7 Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, 8 fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command! 9 Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! 10 Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! 12 Young men and women alike, old and young together! 13 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven....
Selections for Day 3 on the Pilgrimage

(Isaiah 41) 13 For I, the LORD your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, "Do not fear, I will help you."

(Psalm 25) 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. 2 O my God, in you I trust .... 4 Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. 5 Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. 6 Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. 7 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD! 8 Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. 9 He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. 10 All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees. 11 For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great. 12 Who are they that fear the LORD? He will teach them the way that they should choose.... 16 Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. 17 Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress. 18 Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins....

(Psalm 25) 4 Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.
Selections for Day 4 on the Pilgrimage

(Matthew 4) 17 ... Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." 18 As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 21 As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. 22 Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

(Psalm 85) 8 Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts. 9 Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. 10 Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. 11 Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. 12 The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. 13 Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps.

(Matthew 4) 21 As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee ....
Selections for Day 5 on the Pilgrimage

(Mark 1) 35 In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. 36 And Simon and his companions hunted for him. 37 When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you."

(Mark 1) 36 "Everyone is searching for you."

(Psalm 27) 1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? ... 4 One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple. 5 For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock. 6 Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD. 7 Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! 8 "Come," my heart says, "seek his face!" Your face, LORD, do I seek.... 11 Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.... 13 I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. 14 Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

Selections for Day 6 on the Pilgrimage

(Mark 10) 13 People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. 14 But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. 15 Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." 16 And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

(Psalm 131) 1 O LORD, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me. 2 But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me. 3 O Israel, hope in the LORD from this time on and forevermore.
Selections for Day 7 on the Pilgrimage

(John 6) 30 So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? 31 Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" 32 Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." 34 They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." 35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

(John 14) 1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. 4 And you know the way to the place where I am going." 5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Selections for Day 8 on the Pilgrimage

(Psalm 34) 1 I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. 2 My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. 3 O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together. 4 I sought the LORD, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. 5 Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed. 6 This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD, and was saved from every trouble. 7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. 8 O taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. 9 O fear the LORD, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want. 10 The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

(Psalm 127) 1 Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the LORD guards the city, the guard keeps watch in vain. 2 It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives sleep to his beloved....
Selections for Day 9 on the Pilgrimage

(Psalm 103) 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.... 8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. 9 He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. 10 He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; 12 as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us. 13 As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

(Romans 8) 9 But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. 10 But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. 12 So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh--13 for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ--if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

(Psalm 103) 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him.
Selections for Day 10 on the Pilgrimage

(1 Corinthians 15) 3 For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, 4 and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. 7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. 8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them--though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. 11 Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

(Psalm 67) 1 May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us. 2 that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations. 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. 6 The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us. 7 May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

(Psalm 67) 7 … let all the ends of the earth revere him.
Selections for Day 11 on the Pilgrimage

(2 Corinthians 1) 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, 4 who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. 5 For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ.

(Psalm 107) 1 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. 2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. 4 Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town; 5 hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them. 6 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress; 7 he led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town. 8 Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind. 9 For he satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things....
Selections for Day 12 on the Pilgrimage

*(2 Corinthians 4)*  5 For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. 6 For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 7 But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. 8 We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; 10 always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. 11 For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. 12 So death is at work in us, but life in you.

*(Psalm 130)*  1 Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD. 2 Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! 3 If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? 4 But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. 5 I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; 6 my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. 7 O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. 8 It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.
Selections for Day 13 on the Pilgrimage

(Psalm 31) 1 In you, O LORD, I seek refuge; …. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me. 3 You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me, 4 take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge. 5 Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God. 6 You hate those who pay regard to worthless idols, but I trust in the LORD. 7 I will exult and rejoice in your steadfast love, because you have seen my affliction; you have taken heed of my adversities, 8 and have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy; you have set my feet in a broad place. 9 Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress.…

2 Corinthians 12) 5 [O]n my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. 6 … Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. 8 Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, 9 but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. 10 Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Selections for Day 14 on the Pilgrimage

(Galatians 5) 1 For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

(Psalm 16) Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. 2 I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you...." 5 The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. 6 The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage. 7 I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. 8 I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure 10 For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit. 11 You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.
Selections for Day 15 on the Pilgrimage

(Psalm 19) 1 The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. 2 Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. 3 There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; 4 yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, 5 which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy. 6 Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat. 7 The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple; 8 the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes; 9 the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. … 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

(Colossians 3) 1 So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, 3 for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.
Selections for Day 16 on the Pilgrimage

(Hebrews 12) 1 [S]ince we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

(Psalm 17) 1 Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry; ...

Selections for Day 17 on the Pilgrimage

(Matthew 11) 28 "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

(Psalm 145) 8 The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. 9 The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made. 10 All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you. 11 They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power, 12 to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds. 14 The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down. 15 The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. 16 You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing. 17 The LORD is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings. 18 The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. 19 He fulfills the desire of all who fear him; he also hears their cry, and saves them. 20 The LORD watches over all who love him....
Selections for Day 18 on the Pilgrimage

(1 Corinthians 13) 1 If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. 4 Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6 it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. 7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. 9 For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; 10 but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. 11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. 12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. 13 And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

(Psalm 57) 7 My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast. I will sing and make melody. 8 Awake, my soul! Awake, O harp and lyre! I will awake the dawn. 9 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to you among the nations. 10 For your steadfast love is as high as the heavens; your faithfulness extends to the clouds. 11 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens. Let your glory be over all the earth.

Selections for Day 19 on the Pilgrimage

(James 1) 21 [W]elcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. 22 But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. 23 For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; 24 for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like.

(Psalm 119) 105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
Selections for Day 20 on the Pilgrimage

(1 Peter 5) 5 ... And all of you must clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." 6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. 8 Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. 10 And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. 11 To him be the power forever and ever.

(Psalms 61) 1 Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer. 2 From the end of the earth I call to you, when my heart is faint. Lead me to the rock that is higher than I; 3 for you are my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy. 4 Let me abide in your tent forever, find refuge under the shelter of your wings. 5 For you, O God, have heard my vows; you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name.
Selections for Day 21 on the Pilgrimage

(Psalm 118) 1 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!... 4 Let those who fear the LORD say, "His steadfast love endures forever." 5 Out of my distress I called on the LORD; the LORD answered me and set me in a broad place. 6 With the LORD on my side I do not fear. What can mortals do to me?... 8 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to put confidence in mortals 9 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to put confidence in princes .... 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. 20 This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. 21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. 22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. 23 This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. 24 This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. 25 Save us, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, give us success! 26 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD. 27 The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. 28 You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. 29 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

(Matthew 7) 13 "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. 14 For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it."
(1 John 3) 1 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

(Psalm 84) 1 How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! 2 My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. 3 Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God. 4 Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise. 5 Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. 6 As they go through the valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools..... 10 For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness. 11 For the LORD God is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the LORD withhold from those who walk uprightly. 12 O LORD of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

(Psalm 133) 1 How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity! 2 It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes. 3 It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

(1 John 4) 11 Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. 13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. 15 God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. 16 So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.
Selections for Day 24 on the Pilgrimage

(John 12) 20 Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. 21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." 22 Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. 23 Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25 Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. “

(Psalm 51) 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. 4 Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.... 9 Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.... 15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. 16 For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased. 17 The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. 18 Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

Selections for Day 25 on the Pilgrimage

(Psalm 125) 1 Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever. 2 As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his people, from this time on and forevermore.

(2 Timothy 4) 6 As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.
Selections for Day 26 on the Pilgrimage

(Acts 12) 1 About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. 2 He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword.

(Psalm 46) 1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; 3 though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. 5 God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. 6 The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. 7 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. 8 Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth. 9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. 10 "Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth." 11 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.
Selections for Day 27 on the Pilgrimage

(Psalm 116) 13 I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD, 14 I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people. 15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones. 16 O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds. 17 I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the LORD. 18 I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people, 19 in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

(John 15) 12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. 16 You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. 17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."
Selections for Day 28 on the Pilgrimage

(Psalm 138) 1 I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise; 2 I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything. 3 On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.... 7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me. 8 The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

(Revelation 3) 10 Because you have kept my word of patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth. 11 I am coming soon; hold fast to what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. 12 If you conquer, I will make you a pillar in the temple of my God; you will never go out of it. I will write on you the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem that comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. 13 Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.
Selections for Day 29 on the Pilgrimage

(Psalm 100) 1 Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth. 2 Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing. 3 Know that the LORD is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. 4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name. 5 For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

(Revelation 3) 19 I reprove and discipline those whom I love. Be earnest, therefore, and repent. 20 Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.

(Psalm 100) 1 Make a joyful noise to the LORD ....
Selections for the Eve of Arrival in Santiago de Compostela

(Psalm 24) 1 The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; 2 for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. 3 Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place? 4 Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully. 5 They will receive blessing from the LORD, and vindication from the God of their salvation. 6 Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. 7 Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. 8 Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle. 9 Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. 10 Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory.

(Revelation 7) 9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. 10 They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" 11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."
Selections for the Day of Arrival in Santiago de Compostela

(Daniel 3) 57 Bless the LORD, all you works of the LORD; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 58 Bless the LORD, you heavens, sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 59 Bless the LORD, you angels of the LORD; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 60 Bless the LORD, all you waters above the heavens; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 61 Bless the LORD, all you powers of the LORD; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 62 Bless the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 63 Bless the LORD, stars of heaven; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever.

64 Bless the LORD, all rain and dew; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 65 Bless the LORD, all you winds; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 66 Bless the LORD, fire and heat; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 67 Bless the LORD, winter cold and summer heat; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 68 Bless the LORD, dews and falling snow; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 69 Bless the LORD, night and days; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 70 Bless the LORD, light and darkness; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 71 Bless the LORD, ice and cold; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 72 Bless the LORD, frosts and snows; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 73 Bless the LORD, lightnings and clouds; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 74 Let the earth bless the LORD; let it sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 75 Bless the LORD, mountains and hills; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 76 Bless the LORD, all that grows in the ground; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 77 Bless the LORD, seas and rivers; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 78 Bless the LORD, you springs; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 79 Bless the LORD, you whales and all that swim in the waters; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 80 Bless the LORD, all birds of the air; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 81 Bless the LORD, all wild animals and cattle; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 82 Bless the LORD, all people on earth; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 83 Bless the LORD, O Israel; sing
Praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 84 Bless the LORD, you priests of God; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 85 Bless the LORD, you servants of the LORD; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 86 Bless the LORD, spirits and souls of the righteous; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 87 Bless the LORD, you who are holy and humble in heart; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever. 88 Bless the LORD, Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael; sing praise to him and highly exalt him for ever.... 56 Blessed are you in the firmament of heaven, and to be sung and glorified for ever.

.... 56 Blessed are you in the firmament of heaven, and to be sung and glorified for ever.

(Psalm 150) Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament! 2 Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness! 3 Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! 4 Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! 5 Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! 6 Let everything that breathes praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!
Selections for First Full Day in Santiago de Compostela

(Psalm 48) Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised in the city of our God. His holy mountain, 2 beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth, Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King. 3 Within its citadels God has shown himself a sure defense. 4 Then the kings assembled, they came on together…. 9 We ponder your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple. 10 Your name, O God, like your praise, reaches to the ends of the earth. Your right hand is filled with victory…. 12 Walk about Zion, go all around it, count its towers, 13 consider well its ramparts; go through its citadels, that you may tell the next generation 14 that this is God, our God forever and ever. He will be our guide forever.

(1 Peter 1) 6 In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, 7 so that the genuineness of your faith--being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire--may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8 Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

(Psalm 48) 12 Walk about Zion, go all around it, count its towers, 13 consider well its ramparts; go through its citadels ….
Selections for Departure Day from Santiago de Compestela

(Psalm 66) 8 Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard, 9 who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip. 10 For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried…. 16 Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me. 17 I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue. 18 If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. 19 But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer. 20 Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.

(Hosea 6) 3 “Let us know, let us press on to know the LORD; his appearing is as sure as the dawn; he will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth.”

(Psalm 66) 19 he has given heed to the words of my prayer.
These are some additional selections for you to use if your actual pilgrimage takes longer than 31 days and to help you to recall the Camino de Santiago de Compostela.

(Psalm 122) 1 I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!" 2 Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. 3 Jerusalem--built as a city that is bound firmly together. 4 To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD. 5 For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David. 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you. 7 Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers." 8 For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you." 9 For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.

(1 Peter 1) 17 [L]ive in reverent fear during the time of your exile. 18 You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.

(Psalm 29) 1 Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; worship the LORD in holy splendor. 3 The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters. 4 The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon. 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox. 7 The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire. 8 The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. 9 The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!" 10 The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever. 11 May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

(Matthew 17) 1 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. 2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. 3 Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. 4 Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." 5 While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" 6 When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. 7 But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." 8 And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. 9 As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."
(Psalm 42) 1 As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. 2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God? 3 My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?" 4 These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival. 5 Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God....

(Romans 8) 26 [T]he Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. 27 And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

(Psalm 90) 1 Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. 3 You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals." 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night. 5 You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning; 6 in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.... 9 For all our days pass away under your wrath; our years come to an end like a sigh. 10 The days of our life are seventy years, or perhaps eighty, if we are strong; even then their span is only toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.... 12 So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. 13 Turn, O LORD! How long? Have compassion on your servants!

(Philippians 2) 5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, 8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

(Psalm 63) 1 O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. 2 So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. 3 Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. 4 So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name. 5 My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips 6 when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night; 7 for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy. 8 My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.
(Ephesians 2) 17 So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; 18 for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, 20 built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. 21 In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; 22 in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.
Introduction to Notes and Sources

The selected passages are taken from the Holy Bible, New Revised Standard Version.\(^1\) A few passages (marked in the Index of Selections from the Bible) are taken from the New Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition.\(^2\)

The notes that follow refer to the Bible selections by date, rather than page number. The reader's patience is appreciated for the format of this book, which reserves the explanation and attribution of illustrations for these endnotes. The illustrations are meant to inspire reflection, not to offer tour information. There are many sources for the *camino de Santiago* as a cultural or travel experience, but few offering resources for a religious pilgrimage.

The illustrations come from a variety of sources including photographs taken by the author and a number of internet and other sources. The most valuable is the site “Centro Virtual Cervantes” site posted by Spain's Instituto Cervantes, which offers a superb tour of the *camino*, including photographs and notes on every stop along the major Spanish pilgrimage routes, as well as historical and cultural sites near the *camino*. For purposes of the attributions that follow, this site is “Cervantes Site.” A few are drawn from another Centro Virtual Cervantes Site that focuses on Galicia; here, “Cervantes Galicia Site.” These photographs are used by kind permission of the Instituto Cervantes. All rights reserved. The production values in the format of this book cannot match those of the original posting, which are excellent. I urge those interested in the *camino* to visit the Centro Virtual Cervantes Site at:  
<<http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/>>

Also view the other wonderful cultural material posted by Centro Virtual Cervantes, including “Cervantes Galicia Site”: <<http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/paisajes/galicia/>>.

I also am deeply indebted to the Instituto Cervantes of Chicago, where I and so many other students have studied the Spanish language in all its richness and variety and have been introduced to the many cultures of Spain and the Spanish-speaking world. I am grateful to all of my teachers there and to Aurora Miñembres, the academic director during my years of study. Instituto Cervantes offers similar programs around the world. I cannot recommend Instituto Cervantes highly enough.

The Metropolitan Church of Santiago de Compostela maintains a site that includes information on all the churches and programs of the archdiocese, not only the Santiago Cathedral: “Metropolitan Site.” <<http://www.archicompostela.org/>>. Prospective pilgrims should visit that site, as well.

Gary T. Johnson  
January 2003

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\(^1\) The Scripture quotations used herein are from the *New Revised Standard Version of the Bible*, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA and are used by permission. All rights reserved.

Sources of Illustrations

Illustration on cover: Medieval pilgrim’s bridge at Hospital de Órbigo. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/novena_etapa/orbigo

One Week Before Departing On Actual Pilgrimage: Scene near Roncesvalles. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/primera_etapa/roncesvalles/

Six Days Before Departure: Scene near El Cebrero. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/onceava_etapa/cebrero/

Five Days Before Departure: Pilgrim’s shell in Logroño. The shell is the symbol of the pilgrimage because of the proximity of Santiago de Compostela to the Atlantic Ocean, in the northwest corner of Spain. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/cuarta_etapa/logrono

Four days before departure: Selection for December 18: Scene in Galicia. Cervantes Galicia Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/paisajes/galicia/

Three Days before Departure: View near Logroño. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/cuarta_etapa/logrono


Day of Departure on the Actual Pilgrimage: Statue of Santiago from the Santiago Cathedral’s Doorway of Glory, with its sculpture by Master Mateo from the period 1166-1188. The Apostle carries the pilgrim’s staff as well as a tablet stating “MISIT ME DOMINUS” “THE LORD HAS SENT ME.” Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/decimotercera_etapa/santiago/parteluz.htm

http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/primera_etapa/jaca/

Day 2 on the Pilgrimage: Nave of Santiago Cathedral. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/decimotercera_etapa/santiago/catedral.htm

Day 3 on the Pilgrimage: Illustration from Codex Calixtinus o Liber Sancti Jacobi in the Santiago Cathedral archives. This life of Santiago includes an early reference to the Santiago pilgrimage. It dates from the period 1160-1170. The name refers to Pope Calixtus II (1119-1124), who is said to have been the author of many accounts included in the codex. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/decimotercera_etapa/santiago/codex.htm
Day 4 on the Pilgrimage: St. James the Apostle the Great (Santiago) depicted as a pilgrim, from the church of Santiago el Mayor, Sanguësa. Cervantes site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/segunda_etapa/sanguesa/iglesia_de_santiago.htm

Day 5 on the Pilgrimage: Tympanum over door of the façade of la Coronería of the Burgos Cathedral. It portrays Christ surrounded by the four evangelists and by angels and figures from the Apocalypse. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/quinta_etapa/burgos/coroneria.htm

http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/onceava_etapa/cebrero/caliz.htm

Day 9 on the Pilgrimage: Cervantes Site. Scene from Castrojeriz.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/sexta_etapa/castrojeriz/

http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/finisterre/finisterre.htm

http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/decimotercera_etapa/gozo/

Day 12 on the Pilgrimage: Fourteenth-century crucifix at the Church of the Crucifix or Santa María de los Huertos in Puenta la Reina. Considered to be one of the supreme examples of Gothic art in Spain, this crucifix may have been the gift of a pilgrim. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/tercera_etapa/puente_la_reina/crucificado.htm

Day 13 on the Pilgrimage: Walls of León. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/octava_etapa/leon/

Day 15 on the Pilgrimage: Scene near Castrillo de Polvazares. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/novena_etapa/castrillo/

Day 16 on the Pilgrimage: Doorway of Glory, Santiago Cathedral. This doorway is a treasure house of medieval sculpture. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/decimotercera_etapa/santiago/gloria.htm

Day 19 on the Pilgrimage: Pilgrim’s cross, cathedral of Santiago de Compostela. Cervantes site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/decimotercera_etapa/santiago/catedral.htm

Day 21 on the Pilgrimage: The Holy Door, Santiago Cathedral, opened only during holy years of Santiago. The door is opened on December 31 and is closed a year later. Holy years are those when the Feast of Santiago, July 25, falls on a Sunday. The next holy years will be 2004, 2010 and 2021. The last holy year was 1999. Metropolitan Site. http://www.archicompostela.org/Instituciones/Catedral/fachadas.htm


Day 26 on the Pilgrimage: Tomb of the Apostle St. James the Great, Santiago Cathedral. Under the main altarpiece. The Roman-era sepulcher was said to have been discovered in 829 by Teodomiro, the Bishop of the near-by town of Iria Flavia. A hermit named Pelagius reportedly saw inexplicable sights in the woods, later the site of Santiago de Compostela. The Bishop cleared the woods and found a small building that included a crypt in which three burials were discovered. The number comported with the long-standing account that Saint James, along with some of his own disciples, had been buried somewhere in Galicia. Excavations beneath the Santiago Cathedral in 1955 turned up the tomb of Teodomiro with an inscription of “847,” thus lending support to the general sequence of events relating to the discovery of the Roman-era tomb and to Teodomiro’s desire to be buried near the location of the tomb he had found. Metropolitan Site. http://www.archicompostela.org/Institucione/Catedral/tumba.htm


Day 27 on the Pilgrimage: The Pilgrim Mass, Santiago Cathedral, December 2000. Those officiating spoke in the languages of many different pilgrims present that day. The Botafumeiro was used at the end of the service in thanksgiving for St. Francis Xavier. Photograph by author.


Eve of Arrival in Santiago de Compostela: Statues of pilgrims in jubilation at their first view of Santiago de Compostela at Monte del Gozo. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/decimotercera_etapa/gozo/

Day of Arrival in Santiago de Compostela: Figure of star as in the word “Compostela” – starry field – on the wall of the Santiago Cathedral. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/decimotercera_etapa/santiago/catedral.htm

http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/decimotercera_etapa/santiago/instrumentos.htm

First Full Day in Santiago de Compostela: View of Santiago de Compostela Cathedral. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/decimotercera_etapa/santiago/catedral.htm

First Full Day in Santiago de Compostela: The Last Judgment from the Basilica of Bagües, near Jaca. The artist, known as the “Master of Bagnes,” worked during the second half of the eleventh century. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/primera_etapa/jaca/bagues.htm

Day of Departure from Santiago de Compostela: The Botafumeiro, the gigantic incense burner of the Santiago Cathedral. It is 1.6 meters tall, weighs 160 kilograms and swings 65 meters. The Botafumeiro is used only in major liturgical events, either for a thanksgiving after the mass or to incense a holy relic. One man sets the Botafumeiro in motion, and then eight others pull the ropes, making it swing so high that it almost touches the vaults of the transept. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/decimotercera_etapa/santiago/botafumeiro.htm

http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/decima_etapa/ponferrada/ The pilgrim should be advised that Santiago de Compostela is in a very rainy corner of Spain! The live cam coverage by Compañía de Radio-Televisión de Galicia of scenes in Santiago will give the prospective pilgrim a glimpse of the weather conditions:
http://www.crtvg.es/ingles/camweb/cquintana.html

Last page of Additional Selections: Statue of Santiago as a pilgrim in Santiago Cathedral. Cervantes Site.
http://cvc.cervantes.es/actcult/camino_santiago/decimotercera_etapa/santiago/apostol.htm