

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 28:16

So this is what the sovereign Lord says, "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who relies on it will never be stricken with panic."

As a realtor, I regularly observe buyer clients exercising their rights to inspect the property they have made an offer. Due diligence leads the buyer (and myself) to look "within" the walls, under the carpets, and into the underpinnings of the home.

As we proceed on our Lenten Journey, we prudently and thoroughly take time to introspect our heart, soul, and foundations. Suppose we find deficiencies, short circuits, or cracks. In that case, we may plan too quickly to fix the malady without thoroughly evaluating the root cause of the problem: inferior materials, poor workmanship, insufficient engineering, or wrong contractor.

If I take the time to pursue "the word diligently," I find answers and reassurance, reinforcement, and repair of my foundations. A sense of peace is the outcome for me.

God, through Jesus Christ, gives us the tools of prayer, faith, and love by which we become more whole, move caring, more in tune with The Lord in whom we can trust.

Prayer: Dear Lord, we thank you for your watchfulness and care for each of us. We pray that we can accept your gifts of analysis, insight, repair, and most of all, love.

~ Submitted by Fred Markert for the Twenty-First Reading of Lent