Prayer to Live Like Jesus in the World

From *Diary of Private Prayer*, John Baillie, Day Fourteen, Morning

O Lord, you indwell our shabby human life, lifting it now and then above the dominance of animal passion and greed, allowing it to shine with borrowed lights of love and joy and peace, and making it a mirror of the beauties of a world unseen. Grant that my part in the world's life today may not be to obscure the splendor of your presence but rather to make it plainly visible to the eyes of my fellow men and women.

Help me to make a stand today—

For whatever is pure, true, just, and good;
For the advancement of science and education and true learning;
For the redemption of daily business from the blight of self-seeking;
For the rights of the weak and the oppressed;
For cooperation and mutual help in industry, commerce, and government;
For the conversation of the rich traditions of the past;
For the recognition of new movements of your Spirit in the minds and lives of people today;
For the hope of even more glorious days to come.

Today, dear Lord—

Help me to put what is right before my own interest;
Help me put others before myself;
Help me not to forget matters of the spirit by being too consumed with matters of the body;
Help me put the attainment of what is true and just and honorable above the enjoyment of present pleasures;
Help me put principle above reputation;
Help me put you above all else.

O God, the reflection of your transcendent glory once appeared unbroken in the face of Jesus Christ. Give me today a heart like his: a brave heart, a true heart, a tender heart, a heart with great room in it, a heart fixed on you; for his name's sake.
Amen.