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| Sirach  2:1-11  Selection A6 | **A Reading from the Book of Sirach**  **My child, when you come to serve the Lord,**  **prepare yourself for trials.**  **Be sincere of heart and steadfast,**  **and do not be impetuous in time of adversity.**  **Cling to him,**  **do not leave him,**  **that you may prosper in your last days.**  **Accept whatever happens to you;**  **in periods of humiliation be patient.**  **For in fire gold is tested,**  **and the chosen,**  **in the crucible of humiliation.**  **Trust in God, and he will help you;**  **make your ways straight and hope in him.**  **You that fear the Lord,**  **wait for his mercy,**  **do not stray lest you fall.**  **You that fear the Lord, trust in him,**  **and your reward will not be lost.**  **You that fear the LORD,**    ***Continued on the Next Page***  **hope for good things,**  **for lasting joy and mercy.**  **Consider the generations long past and see:**  **has anyone trusted in the Lord**  **and been disappointed?**  **Has anyone persevered in his fear and been forsaken?**  **Has anyone called upon him and been ignored?**  **For the Lord is compassionate and merciful;**  **forgives sins and saves in time of trouble.**  **The Word of the Lord** |