



Daily Reflections

November 8, 2017

Scripture

Luke 14: 25-33

Great crowds were traveling with Jesus,
and he turned and addressed them,

"If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother,
wife and children, brothers and sisters,
and even his own life,
he cannot be my disciple.

Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me
cannot be my disciple.

Which of you wishing to construct a tower
does not first sit down and calculate the cost
to see if there is enough for its completion?

Otherwise, after laying the foundation
and finding himself unable to finish the work
the onlookers should laugh at him and say,
'This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.'

Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down
and decide whether with ten thousand troops
he can successfully oppose another king
advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops?

But if not, while he is still far away,
he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms.

In the same way,
everyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions

cannot be my disciple."

Our Scripture Reflection

One of the shocking things about our society is that many people do not take the time to discern major life decisions. Impulse buying, relationship hopping are harmful and lead to significant problems. Our Lord cautions against such impulsivity when it comes to a person's discernment of discipleship. He cautions the would-be disciple to prayerfully discern their willingness to commit, to sacrifice, to give of themselves for the sake of the Gospel. The spineless, the naive and the weak-kneed should not apply!

Food for your Journey

"My take on the gospel is that we are called to follow, or to build towers, but if we sit down to count the cost and see if we can build, then we will come up short. We can neither build great cathedrals of faith nor great works of commitment, sacrifice or charity on our own. The question that needs to be asked is, 'What towers is God, in Christ, building through us?' And our first step in tower-building is to sit down and check out the resources that God is giving us ... not our own resources of faith or dedication."

Michael Devine

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Please give me the courage and perseverance I need each day to pick up my cross and follow You. If I should stumble or fall, pick me up, Oh Lord. Amen.