



# Daily Reflections

**January 18, 2018**

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## Scripture

### **Mark 3: 7-12**

Jesus withdrew toward the sea with his disciples.

A large number of people followed from Galilee and from Judea.

Hearing what he was doing,

a large number of people came to him also from Jerusalem,

from Idumea, from beyond the Jordan,

and from the neighborhood of Tyre and Sidon.

He told his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd, so that they would not crush him.

He had cured many and, as a result, those who had diseases were pressing upon him to touch him.

And whenever unclean spirits saw him they would fall down before him and shout, "You are the Son of God."

He warned them sternly not to make him known.

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## Our Scripture Reflection

The crowds were huge around Jesus, so much so that His disciples feared He might be crushed by them. How did so many people hear about Him and His work? There were no billboards, no television or radio commercials, no Twitter or Facebook! They heard by word of mouth....imagine that! How many people spread the Good News of Jesus by word of mouth today? Therein lies our problem and our answer to the Church's decline in attendance.

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## **Food for your Journey**

God's call, vocation, is twofold. God calls us saying, "Come, follow me." We arrive and then we must follow. We find but must go on seeking. God's call is a never-ending call, to the unknown, to adventure, to follow him in the night, in solitude. It is a call incessantly to go farther, and farther. For it is not static but dynamic (as creation also is dynamic) and reaching him means going on and on. God's call is like the call to become an explorer; it is an invitation to adventure.

--Ernesto Cardenal, *Love* (Crossroad, 1981), 68.

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

God Our Father,

You will all mankind to be saved

and come to the knowledge of Your truth.

Send workers into your great harvest

that the Gospel may be preached to every creature

and Your people, gathered together by the Word of Life and strengthened by the power of the Sacraments.

may advance in the way of salvation and love.Amen