



# Daily Reflections

**June 6, 2018**

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## Scripture

### **2 Timothy 1: 2-12**

Paul, an Apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God for the promise of life in Christ Jesus, to Timothy, my dear child: grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I am grateful to God, whom I worship with a clear conscience as my ancestors did, as I remember you constantly in my prayers, night and day. For this reason, I remind you to stir into flame the gift of God that you have through the imposition of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord, nor of me, a prisoner for his sake; but bear your share of hardship for the Gospel with the strength that comes from God. He saved us and called us to a holy life, not according to our works but according to his own design and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began, but now made manifest through the appearance of our savior Christ Jesus, who destroyed death and brought life and immortality

to light through the Gospel,  
for which I was appointed preacher and Apostle and teacher.  
On this account I am suffering these things;  
but I am not ashamed,  
for I know him in whom I have believed  
and am confident that he is able to guard  
what has been entrusted to me until that day.

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

By the time Paul writes his second letter to his friend and brother, Timothy, the Church has grown considerably, and so has its persecution. Paul's message to the persecuted? Buck up! Don't be cowards! Use the power of love and self-control that has been granted by the Holy Spirit. And you know what? They did and the Church exploded with growth and, of course, love.

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## **Food for your Journey**

Tauler of Strasbourg is remembered as a great 14th century saint and mystic. One day he learned a lesson from an anonymous beggar. "God give you a good day, my friend," Tauler said as he met the beggar. "I thank God I never had a bad day," the beggar quickly answered. Tauler was silent for a moment, then said, "God give you a happy life, my friend." And the beggar answered, "I thank God I am never unhappy."

Now Tauler was nonplused. "Never unhappy," he said. "What do you mean?"

"Well," the beggar replied, "when it is fine, I thank God; when it rains, I thank God; when I have plenty, I thank God; when I am hungry, I thank God; and since God's will is my will, and whatever pleases him pleases me, why should I say that I am unhappy when I am not?"

Tauler was now in awe of his new friend. "Who are you?" he asked.

"I am a king," said the beggar. "A king!" said Tauler, half ready to believe it. "Where is your kingdom?"

The man in rags spoke calmly, strongly, "In my heart," he whispered. "In my heart."

-J. Ellsworth Kalas, The Ten

## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Gracious Father, Keep me ever-focussed on You and keep my heart steadfastly trusting You for all my needs and necessities. Help me not to function in my own strength, but in the power of the Holy Spirit. May I stand firm in the truth of the Gospel and remain steadfastly looking to Jesus trusting in Him to supply His sufficient strength for all occasions. Teach me all that You would have me to learn today and give me the courage and strength to press on for Your glory. Amen