



Daily Reflections

June 7, 2018

Scripture

2 Timothy 2: 8-15

Beloved:

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David: such is my Gospel, for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains, like a criminal.

But the word of God is not chained.

Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory.

This saying is trustworthy:

If we have died with him
we shall also live with him;

if we persevere

we shall also reign with him.

But if we deny him

he will deny us.

If we are unfaithful

he remains faithful,

for he cannot deny himself.

Remind people of these things

and charge them before God to stop disputing about words.

This serves no useful purpose since it harms those who listen.

Be eager to present yourself as acceptable to God,

a workman who causes no disgrace,

imparting the word of truth without deviation.

Our Scripture Reflection

Arrogance and pride caused confusion and division among believers in the community. Paul admonishes those who are "disputing about words" to strive instead to live the faith so as to "be eager to present yourself as acceptable to God." In other words, let your actions speak more loudly than your words.

Food for your Journey

If people at church are feeling a little stressed -- because, truth is, the Christian life can sometimes seem complicated and demanding -- let's dial it back a bit and remember that the gospel is pretty simple.

Jesus, in fact, loved to keep things simple. He took 613 commandments and distilled them into two.

He gives his disciples a "great commission," not a Great To-Do List.

In the movies it might be complicated (It's Complicated), but for believers, there does not need to be a multitude of tasks that must be accomplished all at once and at the same time. Love God, love your neighbor, be a good worker. Pretty much sums it up.

The prophet Micah has similar advice: "He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (6:8).

A Prayer from the Heart

Heavenly Lord, I thank You for the many witnesses of the faith who have demonstrated that Your power and might is sufficient for all the dangers and disappointments, suffering and pain that we may encounter on our spiritual journey through life. Thank You for the lessons You have taught us through the unparalleled witness of Your beloved Son, Jesus. Please give me all the Grace I need to follow His example this day. Amen