



Daily Reflections

August 3, 2018

Matthew 13: 54-58

Jesus came to his native place and taught the people in their synagogue. They were astonished and said,
"Where did this man get such wisdom and mighty deeds?
Is he not the carpenter's son?
Is not his mother named Mary
and his brothers James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas?
Are not his sisters all with us?
Where did this man get all this?"
And they took offense at him.
But Jesus said to them,
"A prophet is not without honor except in his native place
and in his own house."
And he did not work many mighty deeds there
because of their lack of faith.

Our Scripture Reflection

What a sad homecoming Jesus experienced from the hometown crowd in the Synagogue. In their arrogance, they thought they knew everything about Him. They would be proved terribly wrong. Their know-it-all attitude costs them numerous miracles. In our own day, many claim to know Jesus but rarely practice their faith or enter the inside of His Church. Humility is so essential to having true faith, something the hometown crowd lacked.

Food for your Journey

Mother Teresa, whose sisters in Calcutta run both a hospice and a clinic for leprosy patients, once said, "We have drugs for people with diseases like leprosy. But these drugs do not treat the main problem, the disease of being unwanted. That's what my sisters hope to provide." The sick and the poor, she said, suffer even more from rejection than from material want. "An alcoholic in Australia told me that when he is walking along the street, he hears the footsteps of everyone coming toward him or passing him becoming faster. Loneliness and the feeling of being unwanted is the most terrible poverty."

One need not be a doctor or a miracle worker to meet that need. -- Philip Yancey, *The Jesus I Never Knew* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan

Publishing House, 1995), 173.

No, one only needs to be a spoon.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, I pray to You for the Grace of humility. Please remove all arrogance and false pride from my heart. Then, may I know You and worship You as my Lord and God. Amen