



# Daily Reflections

**August 28, 2018**

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## Scripture

### **Matthew 23: 23-26**

Jesus said:

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites.  
You pay tithes of mint and dill and cummin,  
and have neglected the weightier things of the law:  
judgment and mercy and fidelity.

But these you should have done, without neglecting the others.  
Blind guides, who strain out the gnat and swallow the camel!

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites.  
You cleanse the outside of cup and dish,  
but inside they are full of plunder and self-indulgence.  
Blind Pharisee, cleanse first the inside of the cup,  
so that the outside also may be clean."

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## Our Scripture Reflection

The scribes and Pharisees were scrupulous in their observance of the religious statutes at times even going beyond what was required. However, when it came to showing mercy and compassion they were bankrupt. For Jesus lack of mercy means a lack of righteousness before God.

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## Food for your Journey

Stanley Hauerwas says, "Used cars have values, people don't." What people have are practices, behavior, manners. Show me how a person behaves, in the smallest, most everyday practices of life, and that tells you all you need to know about what is most valuable in that person's life.

—William Willimon, "Mind your manners."

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Thank Your Father for the wonderful Grace that You have bestowed on all Your children, which enables us to live by Your Grace and to grow in Grace and which empowers us with sufficient strength and abilities from above to live and work to Your praise and glory.

I pray that I live in humility of spirit and meekness of mind, so that I may reap the divine benefits of Your gift of Grace which You have promised to bestow on all who humble themselves before Your holy Presence. Amen