



# Daily Reflections

**September 16, 2018**

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## Scripture

**Mark 8: 27-35**

Jesus and his disciples set out  
for the villages of Caesarea Philippi.  
Along the way he asked his disciples,  
"Who do people say that I am?"

They said in reply,  
"John the Baptist, others Elijah,  
still others one of the prophets."  
And he asked them,  
"But who do you say that I am?"

Peter said to him in reply,  
"You are the Christ."

Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him.

He began to teach them  
that the Son of Man must suffer greatly  
and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes,  
and be killed, and rise after three days.

He spoke this openly.

Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples,  
rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan.

You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them,

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it."

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

I would venture to say that the word we use most often for Jesus is the title, "Lord". To call Him Lord, and rightfully so, means that we are His servants. It means that His way is our way. But do we really live this way? Is Jesus the Lord and Master of every dimension of my life? We need to pause, pray and evaluate this.

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## **Food for your Journey**

At most homeless shelters, new arrivals are given the basics: a cot, a blanket and a plain hot meal. Mary Jo Copeland believes that is not enough. At her charity in Minneapolis, the 5'6" dynamo - who drives a white 1998 Lincoln Continental with PRAYNOW license plates - doesn't give her clients just a pat on the back or even a gentle caress on the cheek. She gets down on her knees and washes their feet.

In a hard-knock world, that simple gesture of compassion is enough to bring tears to the eyes of Wayne Irving, a homeless laborer who arrived in Minneapolis by bus from Chicago. "Nobody ever did this for me," he says, sitting over a basin of hot, sudsy water as Copeland, 57, wearing a pair of thin rubber surgical gloves, rubs his callused feet with antiseptic ointment. "I've never met a lady like her in my life."

That's because there aren't very many women like Copeland. With little more than a card table and a couple of coffeepots, she founded a storefront charity 14 years ago on the edge of downtown Minneapolis. Today she is the guiding light of Sharing and Caring Hands, a \$3 million nonprofit community center that caters daily to as many as 1,800 of the city's needy, dispensing everything from hot meals and bus tokens to eyeglasses and deodorant. "It's heartwarming to see thousands of people benefit," says Jim Ramstad, a local congressman and sometime volunteer. "Nobody does more to help people in need. Mary Jo is a true saint - Minnesota's Mother Teresa."

Copeland, who draws no salary, says her work springs from a biblical mandate. "I believe in what Jesus said about helping the less fortunate in memory of him," she says. "That's why I wash their feet. We are commanded to be servants of the poor."

-Susan Schindehette, "Mother of Mercy," People, December 13,

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, Unfortunately, so many people neither know You nor believe in You. Our world has become so secularized and materialistic. While people have so much they at the same time lack Peace. Help me, Lord, to live Your way in the fullest manner possible so that I may make it clear to all that only You are the Lord of my life. Amen