



Daily Reflections

October 3, 2018

Scripture

Luke 9: 57-62

As Jesus and his disciples were proceeding on their journey, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

Jesus answered him,

"Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head."

And to another he said, "Follow me."

But he replied, "Lord, let me go first and bury my father."

But he answered him, "Let the dead bury their dead.

But you, go and proclaim the Kingdom of God."

And another said, "I will follow you, Lord,

but first let me say farewell to my family at home."

Jesus answered him, "No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the Kingdom of God."

Our Scripture Reflection

Jesus' call to discipleship is direct and stark. Those who are conflicted, duplicitous, or self-consumed need not apply. Why is He so demanding? Because evil is real. Sin is a real hazard. Temptations abound. If one dare pick up the Cross and walk in His footsteps, one must do so daily and with

one's mind and heart focused on Jesus. His Grace provides all of the strength one will ever need.

Food for your Journey

What is discipline? The word "discipline" comes from the word "disciple." A disciple is one who is allured or attracted by another. Jesus' disciples were persons who met him, saw him interacting with others, heard him speak and were thereby attracted to him. Being attracted to him, they committed themselves to his company to learn more of the beauty they had intuited. This is the way it is with other artists as well. The pianist is somehow attracted to the music of the piano, and so the long hours of hard work at the instrument, until the back aches and the arms twinge and the fingers swell to become more muscular---all this pain is not counted. It is not called "mortification" or "asceticism." It is discipline, a loving relationship that brings out the best in us. . . It is very important that we recover a spirituality of discipline that is very unlike a spirituality of asceticism on the one hand or a pseudospir- ituality of fear of labor on the other.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, I want to pick up the Cross and follow You each day. Please give me all of the Grace I need to carry it faithfully and without distraction. May I serve the needs of the least and in doing so give You glory. Amen