



Daily Reflections

October 31, 2018

Scripture

Luke 13: 22-30

Jesus passed through towns and villages,
teaching as he went and making his way to Jerusalem.

Someone asked him,

"Lord, will only a few people be saved?"

He answered them,

"Strive to enter through the narrow gate,
for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter
but will not be strong enough.

After the master of the house has arisen and locked the door,
then will you stand outside knocking and saying,

'Lord, open the door for us.'

He will say to you in reply,

'I do not know where you are from.'

And you will say,

'We ate and drank in your company and you taught in our streets.'

Then he will say to you,

'I do not know where you are from.

Depart from me, all you evildoers!'

And there will be wailing and grinding of teeth
when you see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
and all the prophets in the Kingdom of God
and you yourselves cast out.

And people will come from the east and the west
and from the north and the south
and will recline at table in the Kingdom of God.
For behold, some are last who will be first,
and some are first who will be last."

Our Scripture Reflection

An anonymous man in the crowd asks Jesus to provide a number of the people who will make it to Heaven. Jesus does not address him with a specific number and He never will. He tells the man that all of us who believe must deal with the contest-like struggle that is required. One must always walk the high road in imitation of Our Lord and Savior. This ultimately means that one must surrender one's life completely to Jesus and serve Him to the fullest in this life.

Food for your Journey

The mark of maturity in our prayer life is when our prayers are fundamentally changed from "Give me ..." to "Make me ..."

"Give me" prayers are childlike. They treat God like a cosmic vending machine delivering goodies when we insert a coin -- our prayer -- into the slot.

"Make me" prayers are for grown-up Christians. They acknowledge the ways we fall short. They ask God to transform us, so we can be better disciples.

"Lord, make me a better husband, a better wife. Help me love my partner as Christ loves the church."

"Lord, make me a better parent. Make me, through adversity and experience, patient and understanding. Help me by following the example of your life, to model faithful living."

"Lord, you have placed a difficult challenge before me, but I trust that you wish only the best for me. I lean on your strength to provide what I need to rise to the occasion."

"God, may I be more like Christ."

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, I love You and I believe in You completely. Lord, You walked the most difficult of roads for our salvation. You never hesitated and You never gave up even when You were rejected by those Whom You loved. You endured the most unbearable pain, all for love of us. With gratitude for Your sacrifice I offer my love and my devotion. May I live each day in imitation of You and despite the cost. Amen