



Daily Reflections

November 5, 2018

Scripture

Luke 14: 12-14

On a sabbath Jesus went to dine
at the home of one of the leading Pharisees.
He said to the host who invited him,
"When you hold a lunch or a dinner,
do not invite your friends or your brothers or sisters
or your relatives or your wealthy neighbors,
in case they may invite you back and you have repayment.
Rather, when you hold a banquet,
invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind;
blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you.
For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Our Scripture Reflection

How small the heart must be of the person who lives his life on a "Tit for Tat" or "Quid Pro Quo" basis. Jesus teaches the Pharisee and us that such narrowness is not acceptable in His Kingdom. When we do good for someone we must do so full throttled and without expectation of recognition or reward. We do for others because that is our duty as Christians. Our primary motives must be to please Our Lord and to show our love for His people.

Food for your Journey

Years ago, after I asked God to fill my cup, it seemed, instead, that he ate my lunch. As I saw my dreams fade away, I worked harder to hold on and eventually burned out. I wondered where God was and why he let it happen.

Now as I reflect back, I wonder if he could not fill my cup because I already had it full with my personal agenda. I wanted to accomplish great things for God, but I had my own ideas. Perhaps he was waiting for me to empty the unusable contents so he could pour in his plan.

When we admit our need and ask God for help, it is like emptying our life cups. Emptiness, though uncomfortable, is a necessary prerequisite to filling.

Our overflowing cups yield anxiety. God's portion produces security.

--Joan C. Webb,

Meditations for Christians Who Try to Be Perfect

(San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 1993), 83.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You sacrificed everything for our salvation because of your love for us. Although we were not worthy of Your gift nor could we ever be, You gave Your life anyway. Thank You, Lord. May I show my appreciation by loving and giving to Your people, most especially, those who could never do the same. Amen