



# Daily Reflections

**December 14, 2018**

---

## Scripture

### **Matthew 11: 13-16**

Jesus said to the crowds:

"To what shall I compare this generation?

It is like children who sit in marketplaces and call to one another,

'We played the flute for you, but you did not dance,  
we sang a dirge but you did not mourn.'

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they said,  
'He is possessed by a demon.'

The Son of Man came eating and drinking and they said,  
'Look, he is a glutton and a drunkard,  
a friend of tax collectors and sinners.'

But wisdom is vindicated by her works."

---

## Our Scripture Reflection

The people in the crowds were like spoiled brats. They wanted to hear from God but they wanted it on their terms. John preached repentance but his words were too harsh. Jesus preached mercy but applied the message to outcasts and that was unacceptable to the self-righteous. Yes, the message from God was coming to them at all times and in many ways but it was not good enough for them. What spoiled fools they truly were! If only they could have been humble....

# **Food for your Journey**

In Nome, Alaska, teachers receive the same professional journals and publications as teachers in other states. But the situations they face are quite different from all the other states.

A fourth-grade teacher, a newcomer to Alaska, had just received her latest curriculum resource and was discussing with the class the suggestions for a Christmas pageant. The instruction manual read: "For the children playing Santa's reindeer, there should be brown outfits, and passable reindeer horns could be made of bare branches, trimmed to the proper shapes and painted."

She looked out at the barren, treeless, snow-covered landscape. "Well, children," she sighed, "I guess we'll have to do something else. We can't make horns of branches because there isn't a tree for miles."

The children looked disappointed. Then one little boy spoke up. "We haven't any trees, teacher," he said. "But we do have lots of reindeer horns."

What are we missing because we can't see that it's all around us?

---

## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear God, Please give me the gift of humility. Help me to stop being so stubborn, arrogant and prideful. You want me to receive Your Son as my Lord. May I surrender to Him and cease trying to do His job. Amen