



# Daily Reflections

**February 15, 2019**

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## Scripture

**Mark 7: 31-37**

Jesus left the district of Tyre and went by way of Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, into the district of the Decapolis. And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!" (that is, "Be opened!") And immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly. He ordered them not to tell anyone. But the more he ordered them not to, the more they proclaimed it. They were exceedingly astonished and they said, "He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

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## Our Scripture Reflection

Hearing is directly tied to one's ability to speak. The poor deaf man in today's Gospel did not possess the capacity to witness to Jesus. But once his ears were opened, he and all who witnessed his healing became witnesses. How's YOUR hearing???

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## **Food for your Journey**

In the movie, *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*, starring Penélope Cruz and Nicholas Cage, a man comes to the village doctor complaining that he cannot hear.

When the doctor finds a dried pea stuck in his ear — it has been there for years — he removes the pea, and the man is cured.

Later, the man returns to the doctor. He has been overwhelmed with the sounds of life, the bickering, and noise and hassle. He can hardly stand it.

Please, would the doctor put the pea back in his ear?

If only the man could have heard the words of Jesus...

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear God, So many people have not heard about You. Though I feel inadequate when it comes to witnessing to my faith, help me to grow beyond my weaknesses. Give me the courage to simply tell people about how You love me. Amen