



Daily Reflections

March 3, 2019

Scripture

Luke 6: 39-45

Jesus told his disciples a parable,
"Can a blind person guide a blind person?
Will not both fall into a pit?
No disciple is superior to the teacher;
but when fully trained,
every disciple will be like his teacher.
Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye,
but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own?
How can you say to your brother,
'Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,'
when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye?
You hypocrite! Remove the wooden beam from your eye first;
then you will see clearly
to remove the splinter in your brother's eye.
"A good tree does not bear rotten fruit,
nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit.
For every tree is known by its own fruit.
For people do not pick figs from thornbushes,
nor do they gather grapes from brambles.
A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good,
but an evil person out of a store of evil produces evil;
for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks."

Our Scripture Reflection

Jesus' words to His disciples are pure and simple: A good person produces good fruit. You can tell what a person is made of by the way they speak and act. How do we become good? The answer is very simple yet challenging: Imitate Jesus. Why is it so challenging to do so? Because of the influence of the society in which we live that sends us mixed messages all of which run contrary to the Gospel. To become good we must make a conscious choice to follow Jesus' way despite the cost and through the ups and down of life. If you want to experience peace and joy...follow Jesus.

Food for your Journey

"Most people in [Washington, D.C.] who have become successful are not Mother Teresa," says Naomi H. Rosenblatt, a biblical scholar who has been conducting a Bible study group in Sen. Arlen Specter's office for years. "Nobody with visibility in this city has taken a vow of poverty, humility and chastity." If they had, she adds, they probably "wouldn't be here."

But while "nobody's perfect," Rosenblatt comes down hard on "the hypocrisy of people using religion as a commodity to serve their purposes rather than using it to improve the moral nature and infuse the community with spiritual strength." That kind of behavior looks "suspiciously like idolatry," she says, conceding that "people who are not religious are sometimes more ethical than people who say they are."

-Sally Quinn, "The G-Word and
the A-List," The Washington Post,
July 12, 1999, C1.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear God, Open my mind and my heart completely to Your way which is revealed to me through the life of Jesus. As I continue my Lenten Journey, may I carry my cross faithfully and courageously. Amen