October 6, 2019

Scripture

Luke 17:5-10
The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith."
The Lord replied,
"If you have faith the size of a mustard seed,
you would say to this mulberry tree,
'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.
"Who among you would say to your servant
who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field,
'Come here immediately and take your place at table'?
Would he not rather say to him,
'Prepare something for me to eat.
Put on your apron and wait on me while I eat and drink.
You may eat and drink when I am finished'?
Is he grateful to that servant because he did what was commanded?
So should it be with you.
When you have done all you have been commanded,
say, 'We are unprofitable servants;
we have done what we were obliged to do.'"

Our Scripture Reflection

In today’s Gospel text, Jesus links together two most important concepts for one who seeks to be a true disciple….faith and humility.
Faith says: “There IS a God”
Humility says: “There is a God and it is NOT ME"
We have been taught and conditioned to be self-important, all-important, invincible and perfected creatures, but life experience tells us,(often after many attempts at beating our heads against the wall) that we are not. We were created and are loved by an all-powerful and eternal
God. Without Him, we are nothing and we can do nothing. And we must remember, He created us for a purpose. As the old Baltimore Catechism October 6, 2019

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Our Scripture Reflection
In today’s Gospel text, Jesus links together two most important concepts for one who seeks to be a true disciple….faith and humility. Faith says: “There IS a God” Humility says: “There is a God and it is NOT ME” We have been taught and conditioned to be self-important, all-important, invincible and perfected creatures, but life experience tells us,(often after many attempts at beating our heads against the wall) that we are not. We were created and are loved by an all-powerful and eternal God. Without Him, we are nothing and we can do nothing. And we must remember, He created us for a purpose. As the old Baltimore Catechism started so beautifully and succinctly, God made me to: “Know Him, love Him and serve Him in this life and to be happy with Him forever in Heaven.” That, my dear Friends, pretty much says it all.

Food for your Journey
When we move beyond the need to be recognized, we are free to experience the richness of the life God has given us. We experience this richness in different ways. Susan Griffin, poet and essayist, says that a meaningful life to her consists of "feeding your grandchild small spoonfuls of yogurt (and ice cream). Trying to use another language. Walking in the woods. Cooking vegetables just pulled from your garden. Ice skating. Smelling a wood fire. Eating olives. Whistling. Growing old."
Bo Lozoff, spiritual teacher and prison reformer, has another view: "In the enormous category of human experience, we tend to overlook the realm of practical and hands-on capability. My deepest and most joyful education has been learning how to build my house, plow the land, grow some food, get the stuck toast out of the toaster oven without getting electrocuted, fix my recliner without sending it back to La-Z-Boy, etc. Most Americans grow up long on concepts and short on skills. Human beings need to do stuff well. All kinds of stuff. That’s a meaningful life.”
--Cited in Utne Reader, May-June,
A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Meek and humble of heart; make my heart like Your heart. Amen

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