



Daily Reflections

January 15, 2021

Scripture

Mark 2:1-12

And again he entered into Capharnaum after some days.

And it was heard that he was in the house, and many came together, so that there was no room; no, not even at the door; and he spoke to them the word.

And they came to him, bringing one sick of the palsy, who was carried by four.

And when they could not offer him unto him for the multitude, they uncovered the roof where he was; and opening it, they let down the bed wherein the man sick of the palsy lay.

And when Jesus had seen their faith, he saith to the sick of the palsy: Son, thy sins are forgiven thee.

And there were some of the scribes sitting there, and thinking in their hearts:

Why doth this man speak thus? he blasphemeth. Who can forgive sins, but God only?

Which Jesus presently knowing in his spirit, that they so thought within themselves, saith to them: Why think you these things in your hearts?

Which is easier, to say to the sick of the palsy: Thy sins are forgiven thee; or to say: Arise, take up thy bed, and walk?

But that you may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,)

I say to thee: Arise, take up thy bed, and go into thy house.

And immediately he arose; and taking up his bed, went his way in the sight of all; so that all wondered and glorified God, saying: We never saw the like.

Our Scripture Reflection

Which is easier to say: "Your sins are forgiven or pick up your mat and walk"? I would say both are completely beyond human ability. But the small minded, mean-spirited religious leaders of

the day were too bitter to recognize that right before their eyes is the Son of God. Let's pray that we never fall into the trap of believing that Jesus has no power to heal us. May the new year under way see us all grow in our faith and trust in Jesus.

Food for your Journey

This is not the first time Pam Grim has headed into an unruly region. [Earlier, she was] traveling in Haiti with a group distributing eyeglasses and medicine. While the group was on the road, some people swarmed the truck, and when the robbers failed to get what they wanted, they shattered the van's windows with rocks.

That experience did not prevent Pam from going to Macedonia to help the Kosovar refugees. When the opportunity arose for her to volunteer with Doctors of the World, she arranged for coverage at her job as an emergency room physician in Cleveland. A little over a week later, she was working in the Senokos Camp in Macedonia.

-- "Kosovo Diary," Discover,
August 1999, 39.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, To have faith in You means that I not only trust in Your power to heal but that I do my part as Your humble yet sinful servant to assist in the process. Never let me miss an opportunity to give comfort and aid to those who are hurting, Lord. Amen