



Daily Reflections

January 22, 2021

Scripture

Mark 3:13-19

And going up into a mountain, he called unto him whom he would himself: and they came to him.

And he made that twelve should be with him, and that he might send them to preach.

And he gave them power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils.

And to Simon he gave the name Peter:

And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and he named them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder:

And Andrew and Philip, and Bartholomew and Matthew, and Thomas and James of Alpheus, and Thaddeus, and Simon the Cananean:

And Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

Our Scripture Reflection

In today's scripture text Mark gives us the account of Jesus' calling of the twelve Apostles. The Greek word for Apostle (Apostolein) means "one who is sent". These men will be sent about by Jesus to proclaim His Kingdom. Please note: none were Theologians with PhD's, none were bankers or lawyers, none were brilliant or wealthy..... when it comes to witnessing to Jesus, all are qualified.

Food for your Journey

As my sufferings mounted I soon realized that there were two ways in which I could respond to my situation — either to react with bitterness or seek to transform the suffering into a creative

force. I decided to follow the latter course. Recognizing the necessity of suffering, I have tried to make of it a virtue ... I have lived these last few years with the conviction that unearned suffering is redemptive. There are some who still find the cross a stumbling block, others consider it foolishness, but I am more convinced than ever before that it is the power of God unto social and individual salvation. So like the Apostle Paul I can now humbly, yet proudly, say, "I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus."

—Martin Luther King Jr., "Pilgrimage to Nonviolence," in *A Gift of Love: Sermons from Strength to Love and Other Preachings* (Beacon Press, 2012), 159.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dearest Lord, I am truly not worthy to be considered Your follower for I am a sinner. But Lord, You love me enough to use me anyway for Your purposes. Make me humble and repentant. May I strive each day to grow beyond my weaknesses and into the person You want me to be. Amen