



Daily Reflections

October 21, 2016

Scripture

Ephesians 4:1-6

Brothers and sisters:

I, a prisoner for the Lord,
urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received,
with all humility and gentleness, with patience,
bearing with one another through love,
striving to preserve the unity of the spirit
through the bond of peace;
one Body and one Spirit,
as you were also called to the one hope of your call;
one Lord, one faith, one baptism;
one God and Father of all,
who is over all and through all and in all.

Our Scripture Reflection

Paul, although in prison, never ceases to give witness to Our Lord and to call his people to a faithful witness to Our Lord. In today's text, he reminds them to practice the Christian virtues and to do so as a unified body.

Food for your Journey

Pope Benedict XVI announced a special jubilee year dedicated to St. Paul, saying the church needs modern Christians who will imitate the apostle's missionary energy and spirit of sacrifice. ...

In his sermon, the pope said St. Paul's success as an evangelizer was not credited to skills as a speaker or to a "refined strategy" of missionary argumentation.

His achievements had more to do with his extraordinary personal involvement in announcing the gospel and his total dedication to Christ, despite problems and persecutions, he said.

St. Paul's life holds a lesson for modern Christians, the pope said.

The action of the church is credible and effective only to the extent that Christians are willing to "pay personally for their faith in Christ, in every situation," he said. Where this commitment is lacking, the appeal of the gospel will be weaker, he said.

The pope recalled that St. Paul was once a violent persecutor of Christians who experienced a lasting personal conversion.

"He lived and worked for Christ; he suffered and died for him. How current is his example today," he said.

—John Thavis, "Pope announces special year dedicated to St. Paul," www.CatholicNews.com.

Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, With Your Grace, may I become a humble, merciful and faithful witness to You in all things. Amen.