



Daily Reflections

February 4, 2017

Scripture

Mark 6:30-34

The Apostles gathered together with Jesus and reported all they had done and taught.

He said to them,

"Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while."

People were coming and going in great numbers, and they had no opportunity even to eat.

So they went off in the boat by themselves to a deserted place.

People saw them leaving and many came to know about it.

They hastened there on foot from all the towns and arrived at the place before them.

When Jesus disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

Our Scripture Reflection

In the Christian Churches, there is an acute shortage of priests and ministers. Many leaders have hired high powered public relations firms and developed slick advertisement schemes but the results have been mediocre. Why? Because they have put the cart before the horse. The answer? Grow faith FIRST. Create through faith a generous heart and vocations will flourish once again. Sounds too simplistic? All it takes is faith.

Food for your Journey

"God is not trying so much to produce works in us as God is to produce faith in us. God does not want to show the world so much how we can work; God wants to show how we can believe ... it is a glorifying faith that God wants in us. Certainly glorifying works will be the fruit of the glorifying faith, but the tree must come first ..."

--Balladeer and storyteller Buell Kazee, *Faith Is the Victory* (Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers, 1983).

A Prayer from the Heart

Precious Lord, Bless and deepen my faith so that I may grow in my capacity to serve others in imitation of You. Amen.