



Daily Reflections

October 22, 2016

Scripture

Ephesians 4:7-16

Brothers and sisters:

Grace was given to each of us
according to the measure of Christ's gift.

Therefore, it says:

He ascended on high and took prisoners captive;
he gave gifts to men.

What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended
into the lower regions of the earth?

The one who descended is also the one who ascended
far above all the heavens,
that he might fill all things.

And he gave some as Apostles, others as prophets,
others as evangelists, others as pastors and teachers,
to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry,
for building up the Body of Christ,

until we all attain to the unity of faith
and knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood
to the extent of the full stature of Christ,
so that we may no longer be infants,
tossed by waves and swept along by every wind of teaching
arising from human trickery,
from their cunning in the interests of deceitful scheming.
Rather, living the truth in love,
we should grow in every way into him who is the head, Christ,
from whom the whole Body,
joined and held together by every supporting ligament,
with the proper functioning of each part,
brings about the Body's growth and builds itself up in love.

Our Scripture Reflection

For Paul, ego trips can never be a part of the life and mission of the true disciple. We each have been given special gifts to be used for the mutual task of building up the Body of Christ here on earth. When we work together and for the same purpose, then Christ becomes visible for all to see.

Food for your Journey

Snowflakes are frail, but if enough of them get together they can stop traffic.

—Vance Havner

Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You call me and endow me with all that is necessary to be Your witness. Help me to remain strong in the face of temptation and true to the purpose You have given me. Amen.