



Daily Reflections

October 12, 2016

Scripture

Galatians 5:18-25

Brothers and sisters:

If you are guided by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Now the works of the flesh are obvious:

immorality, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry,

sorcery, hatreds, rivalry, jealousy,

outbursts of fury, acts of selfishness,

dissensions, factions, occasions of envy,

drinking bouts, orgies, and the like.

I warn you, as I warned you before,

that those who do such things will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

In contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,

patience, kindness, generosity,

faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

Against such there is no law.

Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified their flesh

with its passions and desires.

If we live in the Spirit, let us also follow the Spirit.

Our Scripture Reflection

Paul loves to compare and contrast the way of "the flesh" with the way of "the Spirit." The way of the flesh is a way that is earthly, secular, materialistic, rooted in human nature with all of its temptations and lust. The way of the Spirit is one whereby one has completely surrendered to the way of Jesus in mind, heart and will. We live the way of the Spirit not by escaping the flesh (the world), but rather, by uniting ourselves completely through the power of the Spirit in Jesus Christ.

Food for your Journey

We have been called to be fruitful -- not successful, not productive, not accomplished. Success comes from strength, stress, and human effort. Fruitfulness comes from vulnerability and the admission of our own weakness.

--Henri J. M. Nouwen, Public address at Yale University, March 30, 1995.

Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Please give me the Grace to unite myself completely to You and to remain there. Amen.