

MORNING MEDITATION

Monday, Twenty Seventh Week of the Year

One of the greatest things that you can master in life is to be still.

Galatians 1:6-12

Some people told the Galatians that Paul was not an apostle and they need not listen to him. The main reason was that he was not one of the original twelve and that he was a persecutor of Christians. In this excerpt, we find Paul defending himself, claiming that his mission was given to him by God and not by any human authority. Paul was convinced that God has spoken to him and sent him on his mission.

Psalm 111

**I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart,
in the company and assembly of the just
Great are the works of the Lord,
exquisite in all their delights.**

Luke 10:25-37

A lawyer asked Jesus what he had to do to inherit everlasting life. Jesus answered him by saying that he must follow the law that he knew which he spelled out as love God and neighbor with all that is available. The lawyer then wanted to know who the “neighbor” was. Jesus told him the story of the Good Samaritan and asked him to make his choice about who he was going to treat as his neighbor.

This excerpt and the story that Jesus told teach us many things and give us good insights. First it reminds us that the most important thing is to love God and neighbor with all we have....give love all you got!

Secondly, it teaches us that the real question is not who my neighbor is but to whom I become a neighbor. Be a neighbor to someone today.

Thirdly, it teaches us not to take unnecessary risks like the man going down a dangerous road from Jerusalem to Jericho.....be cautious and discerning in making choices.

It also teaches us to be sensitive and care for people who are in need even when they have made unreasonable or wrong choices.....be compassionate and show compassion for someone today.

Saint of the Day, October 5 - Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska and 23 other saints are remembered this day.

Helena Kowalska was born in what is now west-central Poland on August 25, 1905. She was the third of 10 children to a poor and religious family. She worked as a housekeeper in three cities to support her family. She approached many different convents, but was turned away every time. Finally, the mother superior for the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy decided to take in Faustina on the condition that she could pay for her own religious habit. Working as a housekeeper, Faustina began to save her money and make deposits to the Convent.

On April 30, 1926, at the age of 20, she finally received her habit and took the religious name of Sister Maria Faustina of the Blessed Sacrament and in 1928, she took her first religious vows as a nun. She worked as a cook, gardener and porter in three of their houses.

On February 22, 1931, Faustina was visited by Jesus, who presented himself as the "King of Divine Mercy" wearing a white garment with red and pale rays coming from his heart. She was asked to become the apostle and secretary of God's mercy, a model of how to be merciful to others, and an instrument for reemphasizing God's plan of mercy for the world.

Sister Maria Faustina died of tuberculosis in Krakow, Poland, on October 5, 1938 and was canonized in April 30, 2000 by Pope John Paul II.

Fr. Gus Tharappel,msfs