

Thursday of the Third Week of Easter April 30, 2009

Scripture: Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; John 6:44-51

Reflection: “No one can come to me unless the Father draw him...” - John 6:44

We are burdened these days with responsibilities, demands on our time and energy, confusion and conflict over what to do or what to say or how to handle concerns. There seems little to inspire or give us hope. . . until we quiet ourselves and listen; when we take time to pray. The quieter I became the more evident the reality. God leads. God speaks. . . God shows us the way.

We learn from this passage that the very choice to pray is evidence that we are engaged with God. The desire to pray is itself a prayer, communion with God. Our desire is God’s call. To be silent, to listen, to leave behind all responsibilities and conflict is certainly a challenge. Our place, though, is to sit and be still in God’s transforming presence, listening with an open heart.

Our responsibilities and demands will always be, and conflicts will still arise. The world will be the same as when we left it behind for our time with God, but we will be transformed. Prayer may not change the world but prayer does change us, and we walk back into the fray as a beacon of peace and hope. Life has overcome death, goodness will triumph over evil, and God will never stop drawing us deeper into the transcendent experience of a love that knows no bounds. Resurrection hope.



Suggested Action: Make a commitment to gift yourself each day with a time of silent listening to God who speaks to your heart. Enjoy the overwhelming peace of this glimpse into the eternal life to which you are being drawn.

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