

September 26, 2025

Daily Reflections



JESUS' PERSONAL QUESTION

By Sister Jeanne Fallon, CSJ

Today's Gospel

Once when Jesus was praying in solitude, and the disciples were with him, he asked them, "Who do the crowds say that I am?" They said in reply, "John the Baptist; others, Elijah; still others, 'One of the ancient prophets has arisen.'" Then he said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said in reply, "The Christ of God." He rebuked them and directed them not to tell this to anyone. He said, "The Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised."

LUKE 9:18-22

Reflection

Before considering the above Gospel passage, I want to set the **CONTEXT** to

show what happened before this event. In chapter 5, Jesus called his first disciples. Following this, Jesus healed a leper, a paralytic, and a man with a withered hand, and ate with so-called sinners. In chapter 6, Jesus chose the Twelve Apostles, taught the crowds and taught his disciples. In chapter 7, Jesus cured the centurion's servant, restored to life a widow's son and answered John the Baptist's question: "Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?" Jesus cured many different people and showed tender compassion to a woman who had been a sinner and desired forgiveness. In chapter 8, several women began to follow Jesus and provided for the disciples out of their own resources, and Jesus began to teach in parables. Chapter 9 began with sending the disciples out to carry out his mission, to teach and cure diseases. When they returned, Jesus gathered them in retreat so they could tell Jesus their experience of healing and teaching.

In today's Gospel, we see ***Jesus praying alone in the presence of his disciples***. This strikes me, seeing how close they have become as Jesus can pray in solitude to his Father with the disciples present with him. Then Jesus asks the question he has been wanting to ask: ***"Who do the crowds say that I am?"*** The disciples answer him with the words they have heard people saying. Then Jesus asks his personal, intimate question of his disciples: ***"But who do you say that I am?"*** Peter says in reply, ***"The Christ of God."*** By the divine grace given to him, Peter reveals who Jesus is to him and to the disciples. They are instructed not to tell anyone because Jesus must suffer greatly, be rejected by the elders, and be killed and on the third day, be raised. This is the first prophecy of Jesus' passion and death. How the disciples must have been stunned to hear these words!



Flock of Birds Flying Over Bare Tree Overlooking Sunset

For Pondering and Prayer

This might be a moment to let Jesus ask each of us the same personal question, **“Who do you say that I am?”**

If you journal as a way of prayer, you might want to respond to Jesus’ intimate question in your own words, telling Jesus who he is to you. Or you may wish to compose a poem or sing a love song to him or simply bow in reverence to Jesus Christ who has come to us to raise us up to Eternal Life with him forever.

Amen.

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