

July 9, 2024

Daily Reflections



Center for Spiritual Development

SHEPHERD US O GOD!

By Sr. Jayne Helmlinger, CSJ

Today's Gospel

A demoniac who could not speak was brought to Jesus, and when the demon was driven out the mute man spoke. The crowds were amazed and said, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He drives out demons by the prince of demons."

Jesus went around to all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom, and curing every disease and illness. At the sight of the crowds, his heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few; so, ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest."

MATTHEW 9:32-38

Reflection

This gospel never fails to give me pause because I ask myself ... am I one of the laborers that can be counted upon? How do I make this assessment? Do I dig deep and honestly do my own self-assessment on how I'm doing?

The needs of our world seem infinite. One doesn't have to look too closely to see the amount of need in our families, congregations, and neighborhoods – both local and global neighborhoods.

As I reflect on this scripture, I take stock of where I'm putting my time and energy. Am I doing my part in responding to the needs around me? Am I being generous of heart with my gifts and talents? Am I living a balanced life where I have time for those for whom I could "ease their way?"

For all of us who self-identify as persons of faith, it behooves us to do this type of Examen because if we each contribute to the goodness our world needs, we are making the world a more safe, humane, and just one for all of God's creatures.

Prayer Response to the Reflection

O Shepherd God, may we, the flock of your people, be attuned to the needs around us. May we seek the lost lambs of this world, inviting them into the circle of life to which all are called.

O Shepherd God, may we listen to your voice within and around us. May we search inwardly for what each of us is called to do each day. May our response be generous and flow from a heart grounded in you.

O Shepherd God, may we be among the laborers of the fields of your creation May we seek the lost and forsaken, the broken and shunned, the lost and the abandoned. Let us not turn away from those who seek to be a part of your flock here on earth.



"Good Shepherd" by Lawrence OP is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.

To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.0/?ref=openverse>.

For Pondering

- How do you assess your own role as a laborer in the fields of the Lord?
- How do you seek the lost and forsaken in your life?

For Prayer

*O God of infinite love,
may we be cognizant of those around us in need of care and attention.*

*May our responses be generous
and our hearts open and ready to receive the lost among us.*

Amen.

**If you enjoy reading our reflections and would like to make
a donation towards this ministry, click the button below!**

Support CSD



Center for
Spiritual
Development

COMPANIONS ON THE
SACRED JOURNEY



[Visit Website](#)

714-744-3172

[Join Mailing
List](#)



To “Unsubscribe” from the daily reflections while remaining on our general mailing list, please [email us](#). The unsubscribe function below will unsubscribe you from all emails from CSD. Please know we will never share your information.

Center for Spiritual Development | 434 A South Batavia Street, Orange, CA 92868 714-744-3175

[Unsubscribe slongbotham@csjorange.org](mailto:slongbotham@csjorange.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data
Notice](#)

Sent by thecsd@csjorange.org