

April 25, 2023



Center for Spiritual Development

Daily Reflections

JOURNEYING THROUGH EASTER

Photo by Tomas Williams from Pexels

GOD'S LION

By Julie Mussché

Do your best to come to me quickly, for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry.

2 TIMOTHY 4:9-11

Reflection

The readings that follow Easter are filled with excitement and inspiration as the early Church churns with the Holy Spirit's stirrings. The scripture passage opening this reflection is written by Paul just before his death and as he closes the epistle, he asks for help, particularly from Mark. "All hands-on deck," a call to get the Good Word out and chronicled.

Mark the Evangelist proclaimed the teachings of Jesus as a preacher and writer of the shortest Gospel. It is thought to be largely built on the preaching of Peter. Some traditions hold that Mark founded the Church of Alexandria and established the Coptic Church.

One of the most significant pilgrimage moments for me was to visit St. Mark's Basilica in Venice, and to recognize his influence in helping to establish early Christianity. It is absolutely remarkable to consider how Christianity spread from the inspired efforts of a small group of hearts on fire. Today is the Feast Day of St. Mark the Evangelist. Happy Feast Day!



Winged Lion at St. Mark's in Venice
Photo by Sarah Lötscher from Pixabay

For Pondering & Prayer

You are invited to spend some time with the passage below, applying the steps of *Lectio Divina*:

- Read the passage several times; let the words settle in.
- Pray and have a conversation with God about the reading.
- Meditate on and savor the sacred entry the words offer.
- Contemplate and just be with the moment and God. Act as so called.

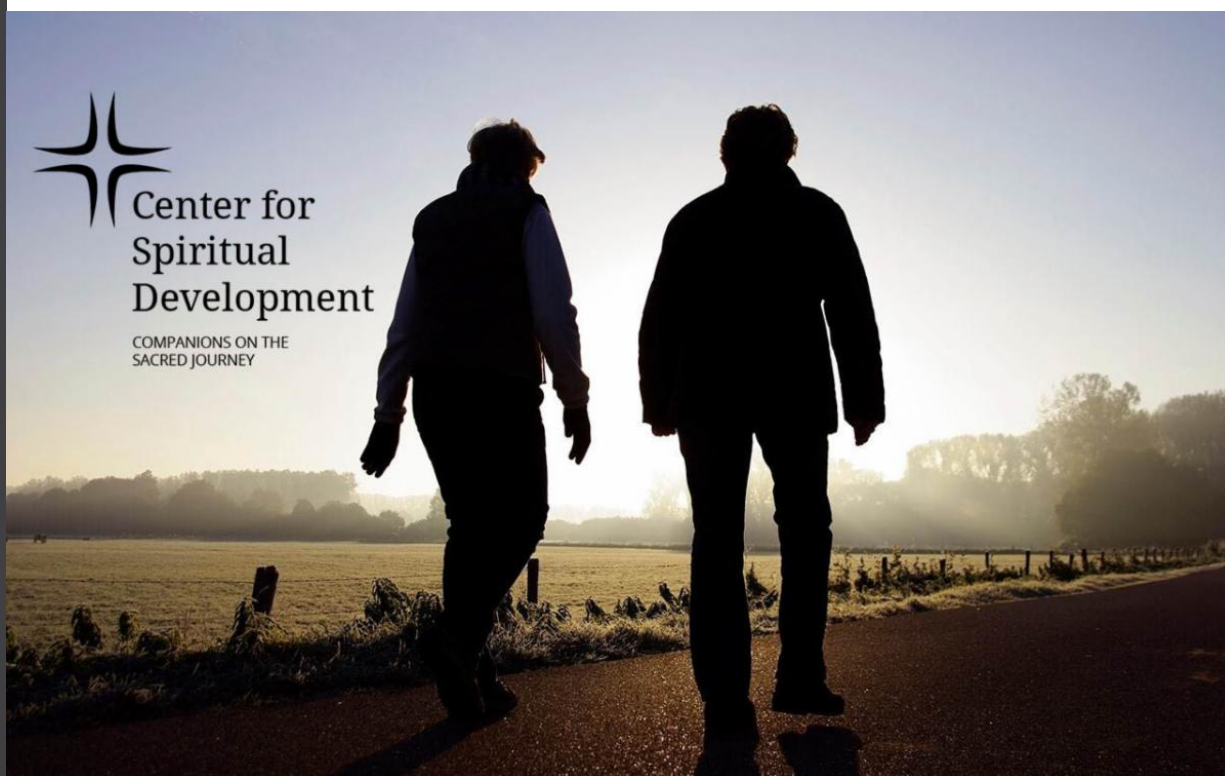
“Jesus appeared to the Eleven and said to them:

*‘Go into the whole world
and proclaim the Gospel to every creature.’”*

MARK 16:15

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