

July 1, 2024

Daily Reflections



Center for Spiritual Development

HEAR GOD'S VOICE

By Jane DeLisle, CSJ

Today's Gospel Acclamation and An Excerpt from the First Reading

"If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts."

PSALM 95:8

Thus says the LORD:

For three crimes of Israel, and for four,

I will not revoke my word;

Because they sell the just man for silver,

and the poor man for a pair of sandals.

They trample the heads of the weak

into the dust of the earth,

and force the lowly out of the way.

Son and father go to the same prostitute,

profaning my holy name.

Upon garments taken in pledge

*they recline beside any altar;
And the wine of those who have been fined
they drink in the house of their god.*

AMOS 2:6-10

Reflection

The counter spirit flows from reflection on the Alleluia verse above. We never outgrow the school of self-knowledge, nor the discipline of reflection that alerts us to our motivations, inclinations, and temptations. It is only in opening my heart to the voice of God in scripture and letting it settle deep within my soul, that I can adhere to God's ways of compassion, mercy, kindness, and receptivity to the movement of the Holy Spirit. Self-justification and greed are never an excuse for abusing or discounting the needs of real people, creation, and the cries of the people of God.

In listening to God's voice and clinging to the Gospel mandate to "love one another as God has loved," I am able to navigate my way out of dark motivations and into the light of God's great love. Sometimes listening and adhering is costly to my ego. Yet, God's voice within and around me urges me forward to love and care for the dear neighbor without distinction.



Silhouette of Man Sitting in Grass Field at Daytime

Photo by Spencer Selover

For Pondering

- As I listen to God's voice within me, to what am I called?
 - As I reflect on the scriptures today, what do they reveal about the world around me?
 - In silent contemplation, what needs to change in my attitude and behavior to live more faithfully in the ways of God's love?
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For Prayer

*God of Love,
you have created us in your image
and bestowed the dignity of being a child of God.
Teach me your ways,
open the eyes of my mind and the ears of my heart
to authentically live out of the Goodness with which you pursue me.
Draw me to yourself and make me more your own each day.
Teach me to listen to your voice and live in your ways
of love, compassion, mercy, and forgiveness.
Amen.*

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