

July 12, 2025

Daily Reflections



EACH OF US IS CALLED

By Sister Jayne Helmlinger, CSJ

Today's Gospel

Jesus said to his Apostles: "No disciple is above his teacher, no slave above his master. It is enough for the disciple that he become like his teacher, for the slave that he become like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more those of his household! Therefore, do not be afraid of them. Nothing is concealed that will not be revealed, nor secret that will not be known. What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light; what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna. Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father."

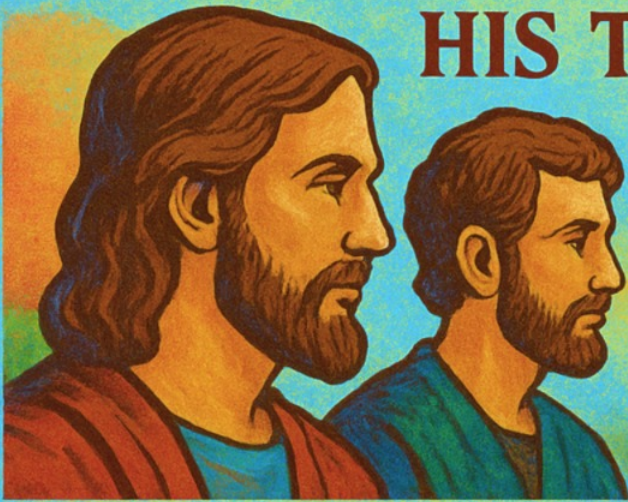
Reflection

This passage from Matthew continues with the theme of Jesus sending out his disciples on mission. Jesus' message to the disciples and to us is to have courage, loyalty to God, and to know that we are under God's care.

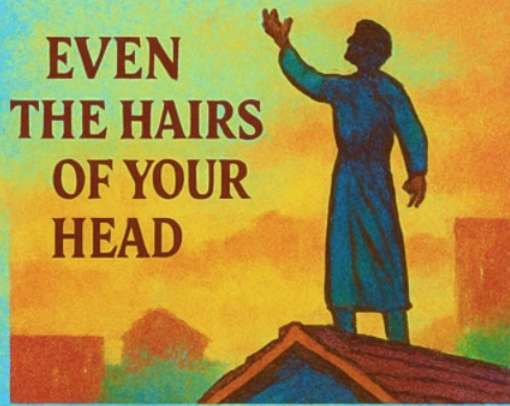
Jesus once again reminds his disciples that they will be treated in a similar manner as he is treated. Jesus faced persecution, ridicule, oppression, rejection, slander, and so much more. Discipleship is not for the faint of heart; it requires courage, determination, prayer, faith, joy, and hope. We too will suffer along the way, yet we will experience the deep peace and joy of knowing we are responding to God's invitation in our lives. There is no need for fear! I love the image of shouting from the rooftops (though don't literally do this)! We are to share the abundance of what we have in Christ Jesus with others and to do so without fear. Take courage and be a witness to God's saving power in your life and the lives of those you encounter.

Jesus promises that if we are loyal and true to him, we will have eternal life. If we suffer, embrace the suffering as a part of our discipleship. Jesus urges us to proclaim from the rooftops because what he preached is not to remain hidden. Be the public witnesses against oppression and falsehoods as Jesus modeled for us. Trust in God that no matter what, you are with God and God is with you.

A DISCIPLE IS NOT ABOVE HIS TEACHER



EVEN
THE HAIRS
OF YOUR
HEAD



DO NOT FEAR
THOSE WHO
KILL THE BODY

BUT CANNOT
KILL THE SOUL



PROCLAIM
ON THE
HOUSETOPS

EVEN THE HAIRS
OF YOUR HEAD
ARE ALL NUMBERED

EVERYONE WHO ACKNOWLEDGES ME
BEFORE OTHERS I ALSO WILL
ACKNOWLEDGE

MATTHEW 10:24-33

Image created by Sister Jayne Helmlinger, CSJ

For Pondering

- If you were to proclaim from the rooftop this day, what would your message be?
 - How might you proclaim this message through your normal, daily interactions?
 - How have you taken Jesus' message to heart that you will not slip from God's care? What happens within you as you ponder this reality?
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For Prayer

*O God who missions each of us to spread the Good News,
may we draw upon your grace and courage
to proclaim what is ours to proclaim this day.
Let us embrace our discipleship in the comings and goings of our busy lives.
May we each seek to do God's will with the very fabric of our lives.
Amen.*

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