

June 16, 2024



Photo by Sr. Karin Nürnberg, CSJ, from the Abbey St. Hildegard in Eibingen, Germany

WE WALK BY FAITH, NOT BY SIGHT

By Sr. Katherine "Kit" Gray, CSJ

A Reading from 2 Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

*We are always courageous,
although we know that while we are at home in the body
we are away from the Lord,
for we walk by faith, not by sight.
Yet we are courageous,
and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord.
Therefore, we aspire to please him,
whether we are at home or away.
For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ,
so that each may receive recompense,
according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.*

2 CORINTHIANS 5:6-10

Reflection

“We walk by faith, not by sight” is a line from Paul’s second letter to the faith community in Corinth; he wrote this letter in response to a crisis among them. That is the context; however, I will reflect on the line “out of context.”

“We walk by faith, not by sight” begs the question: what is faith? The dictionary defines faith as “complete trust or confidence in someone or something.” The Catholic Catechism describes faith as “both a gift from God and a human act by which the believer gives personal adherence to God (who invites a response) and freely assents to the whole truth that God has revealed.”

“We walk by faith, not by sight.” Throughout his public ministry, Jesus responds to and commends the faith of men and women who believe in him:

Now when Jesus heard this (a statement by the centurion seeking a cure for his servant), He marveled and said to those who were following, “Truly I say to you, I have not found such great faith with anyone in Israel.”

MATTHEW 8:5

And they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralytic, “Take courage, son; your sins are forgiven.”

MATTHEW 9:2

But Jesus turning and seeing her said, “Daughter, take courage; your faith has made you well.” At once the woman was made well.

MATTHEW 9:22

Then Jesus said to her, “O woman, your faith is great; it shall be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed at once.

MATTHEW 15:28

In these examples and many more throughout the Gospels, people express faith— “sight unseen.” They may have heard about Jesus’ healing of others, or they may have witnessed a cure; however, their faith—their confidence—that Jesus could and would do something for them “remained to be seen.” They “walked by faith, not by sight.”

We too, “walk by faith, not by sight” and Jesus acknowledges this in his encounter with Thomas after the resurrection. In response to Thomas’ profession of faith, Jesus says, “Have you come to believe because you have

seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.” (John 20:29)

We walk by faith, not by sight.



Northern Lights Seattle
Photo by Cherilyn Frei

For Pondering

- What is faith to you?
 - When have you “walked by faith?”
 - How does sight/seeing inform or confirm or strengthen your faith?
-

For Prayer

*O Lord,
give us a mind that is humble, quiet, peaceable,
patient and charitable,
and a taste of your Holy Spirit*

*in all our thoughts, words and deeds.
O Lord, give us a lively faith,
a firm hope, a fervent charity, a love of you.
Take from us all lukewarmness in meditation,
and all dullness in prayer.*

*Give us fervor and delight in thinking of you,
your grace, and your tender compassion toward us.*

*Give us, good Lord,
the grace to work for
the things we pray for.*

Amen.

ST. THOMAS MORE (1478-1535)

**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 US

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