

April 15, 2023



Center for Spiritual Development

Daily Reflections

JOURNEYING THROUGH EASTER

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PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS!

By Sister Jayne Helmlinger, CSJ

Excerpts from Today's Readings

Observing the boldness of Peter and John and perceiving them to be uneducated, ordinary men, the leaders, elders, and scribes were amazed, and they recognized them as the companions of Jesus.

ACTS 4:13

He said to them, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature."

MARK 16:9

Reflection

I'm captured by the word "boldness" in describing the discipleship of Peter and John, and how others recognized them as companions of Jesus. This speaks directly to our own discipleship and prompts the question, how might others

describe us as followers and companions of Jesus? I must admit that there is an unease as I reflect on my way of discipleship and question how others would describe my way of being as a follower of Jesus. Am I conveying, with my life, the deep faith I profess?

Throughout this Easter week, we've read about the doubting of Peter and the other disciples. At the same time, we've witnessed their response to Jesus' promptings, like yesterday's casting of their nets into the Sea of Tiberias. My own faith journey is much like that of the disciples, filled with courage in some instances, and remaining silent at times when perhaps I ought to speak from a heart of faith. Noting how our journey in life has many twists and turns along the way, we're reminded that we can alter our life's direction. This is empowering and enables each of us to tap into a deeper sense of courage to "go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature" (Mk 16:15).



Photo by Sr. Jayne Helmlinger, CSJ

*Do not falter, people of faith.
Take courage in the One who calls you.
Walk confidently, bearer of the Good News,
for you might be the conduit of God's message
needed by another at this very moment.*

*Speak boldly, O people of faith.
Proclaim the Good News to those
you encounter along the way.
Fear not, for God is with you,
directing and guiding each courageous
step along your pilgrim's journey.*

JAYNE HELMLINGER, CSJ

For Pondering

- When have you been bold in your faith when you were met with resistance? Remember and give thanks for how you drew courage and strength to stand firm in honoring your discipleship.
 - Often the disciples were companions for one another as they proclaimed the Good News. Who are the companions on your faith journey? Perhaps there are others you might invite to join you along the way.
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For Prayer

Loving God, you are the source of all life. May we boldly proclaim the Good News in our thoughts, words, and actions. May we be companions on the journey, relying on your grace and gifts of courage and perseverance, as well as the companionship of one another. Amen.

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