

July 16, 2025

Daily Reflections



GIFT OF CURIOSITY

By Sister Jane DeLisle, CSJ

Excerpts from Today's Readings

At that time Jesus exclaimed:

*“I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for although you have hidden these things
from the wise and the learned
you have revealed them to the childlike.”*

MATTHEW 11:25

*Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian.
Leading the flock across the desert, he came to Horeb,
the mountain of God.*

*There an angel of the LORD appeared to him in fire
flaming out of a bush.*

*As he looked on, he was surprised to see that the bush,
though on fire, was not consumed.*

*So Moses decided,
“I must go over to look at this remarkable sight,
and see why the bush is not burned.”*

EXODUS 3:1-3

Reflection

The Sacred Scriptures invite us to childlike wonder, curiosity, and awe in our relationship with God and life. Moses models curiosity in the face of the unknown or unfamiliar, a burning bush that is not being consumed. Jesus says God is revealed to the childlike. When life happens, or we are surprised or disappointed by what comes our way, it is far better to first be curious rather than fearful, self-protective, and angry. Being defensive in *the presence of the* extra-ordinary blocks the possibilities for insight, broadening perspective, and wonder. After all, every moment holds the potential to encounter God.

I have watched my grand-nephew, who is naturally curious about everything and everyone. He was born during the height of the COVID 19 pandemic. I first met him when he was two. He confidently strode into our Motherhouse living room and began exploring the environment. He bent to look under a glass-topped coffee table to see how it was made, touching the surfaces with keen curiosity. As he has grown, he continues to be observant, curious, and adventuresome about life, especially new circumstances. He is a wonder of God's great love.

My grand-nephew reawakened in me curiosity as special grace from God. Curiosity opens me to exploration of the unfamiliar, or that which seems contrary to expectation. This is a good way to navigate turbulent times, and contrary facts, and difficult conversations. If I can manage to keep my emotions on hold, I can ask questions that lead to clarity, rather than assuming what another is saying or doing which seems foreign to my sensibilities.

As an adult, curiosity can be elusive. Yet, leaning into my relationship with God, where control is an illusion, curiosity leads to wonder and awe at what God is doing and saying while leading me to discover the deeper truths and realities of life. I choose to foster curiosity and wonder, and to see as God sees. When I awake in the early morning, I stretch, and turn my mind and heart to God in the gift of a new day. I thank God for the blessing of refreshing sleep and ask to be open to whatever God has in store for me today. Prayer and contemplative sitting assist me in living more consciously in God's presence. I have a greater possibility to be ready for whatever comes. I hope to lead with curiosity, marvel at God's abiding presence, and rejoice in all that God is doing.

Rather than focusing on “what is NOT,” I seek to focus on “what God IS doing.” I want to see life with the eyes of God. Three cheers for childlike curiosity, wonder, appreciation, and awe.



Boy Blowing on Dandelio
Photo by Sharefaith

For Pondering

Ask yourself:

- How can I open myself to consciously embrace life with curiosity and wonder?
 - How is curiosity a practice that leads to dialogue in the face of seeming controversy?
 - How is God’s abiding presence being revealed to me?
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For Prayer

*Lord, we confess our rigidity.
It requires work to ask questions.
It requires effort to see a point of view from another.
It requires humility to challenge our assumptions.*

*It requires waiting to hear from You.
Honestly, we lack the resources to change on our own.
I pray for curiosity.*

*Give us open minds and hearts.
Release us from the cynicism that pervades our perspective.
Move us from obstinance to pliability.
Ultimately, we ask You to let us see what You see.
May this become true for others and ourselves.*

*The Good News of the Gospel motivates our curiosity.
You are the God making all things new.
We experience the Cross when You put to death our sin and brokenness.
You offer us new life through the Resurrection.
Provide us the faith like children to ask more questions than making
statements.*

*Today, make us curious.
Remind us of the power of the Gospel.
Move us from being static to dynamic.
Let our curiosity see You in ways we have never seen You before.*

PETER ENGLERT

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