

October 7, 2023



Center for Spiritual Development

Daily Reflections

Image by Christine Sponchia

EYES TO SEE; EARS TO HEAR!

By Sr. Jayne Helmlinger, CSJ

An Excerpt from Today's Gospel

The seventy-two disciples returned rejoicing and said to Jesus, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us because of your name." ... "All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him." Turning to the disciples in private he said, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. For I say to you, many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it."

LUKE 10:17; 22-24

Reflection

Earlier this week, on Thursday, we heard about Jesus sending the 72 disciples out to the towns and villages before his arrival. Today, we hear the joy and

excitement of their return as they share with the Lord how they were able to cast out demons because of Jesus' name and because he had sent them on this mission.

We, too, are being called and sent as followers of Jesus, committed to preaching, teaching, and spreading the Good News. While we were not witnesses to Jesus in his time, we are witnesses to the Spirit's work in our lives and the lives of others in the present. Sometimes it's not easy; and yet, my hunch is that you can recall times where you've been the conduit of God's tender mercies through your presence, actions, or words. Many of us might not be healers in the physical sense; I believe that we are and can be conduits of healing in the spiritual sense. We can bring the Living Word to those with whom we live, work, and interact each day. It is our call – our mission – to do so!

Eyes and Ears to See and Hear

May my eyes open wide to the vision you see, O Lord. Let me see with the tenderness of your gaze, and the searching eyes that spring from your heart Divine.

May my heart open wide to the love you envision for the world. May I create the space within my own life to allow your vision to become reality.

May I use all my senses to capture the nuances of needs before me. May I nurture the gifts you've given to me to increase my ability to see, hear, and respond as Jesus and the first disciples did so long ago.



A series of arches
Photo by Sr. Jayne Helmlinger, CSJ

For Pondering

- How do you experience yourself as being called and sent to preach, teach, witness, and live the Gospel each day?
 - Recall a time when you were an instrument of God's peace, mercy, or comfort to another. What made this experience different than others?
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For Prayer

*O God who calls us each by name,
may we continue to be witnesses to your Word.
May we not grow weary of our commitment
to follow in the footsteps of all who have gone before us,
preaching, teaching, and witnessing to the glory of God.
Amen.*

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Center for Spiritual Development | 434 A South Batavia Street, Orange, CA 92868 714-744-3175

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