

October 31, 2025

Daily Reflections



Center for
Spiritual
Development

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

By Alicia Rodriguez

An Excerpt from Today's Gospel

Then he said to them

*"Who among you, if your son or ox falls into a cistern,
would not immediately pull him out on the sabbath day?"*

But they were unable to answer his question.

LUKE 14:5-6

Reflection

What would you do if someone you cared about needed your help on the sabbath day? Would you help them?

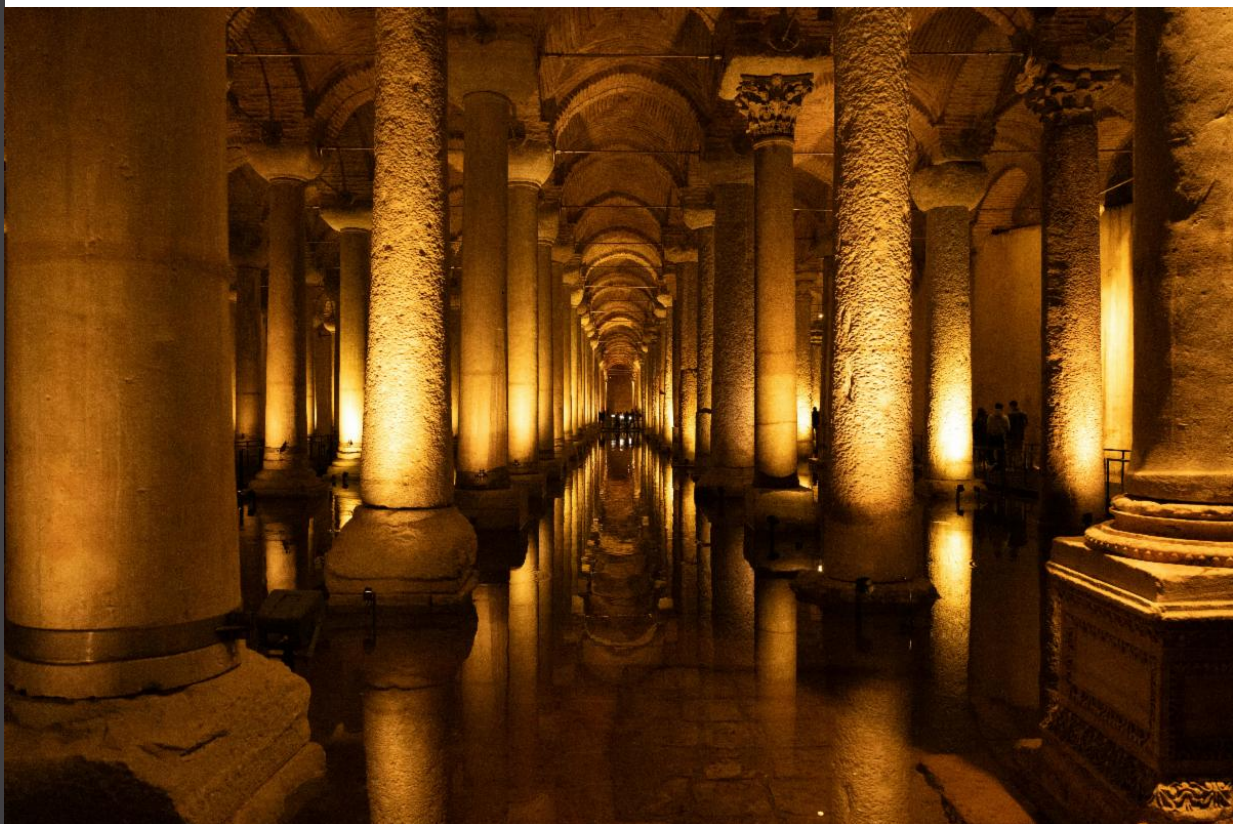
What if someone you didn't know as well, or at all, needed help on the sabbath day? Would you help them or let them figure it out on their own?

Today's gospel talks to us about how we shouldn't pick and choose when we should be a good neighbor, but that we should constantly be a good neighbor to all. We should love one another equally and serve each other equally. We shouldn't put some people down and elevate others, but we should all grow together.

In reading today's gospel, I had to look up what a cistern was (see image below) and wondered, "How deep does it go?" I thought how dark it must be, and imagined myself falling in and wondering how long it would take someone to find me. I would be terrified ... and probably even more so when I realized it was the sabbath day and I might not receive any help.

It reminded me of the time I broke my hand during softball practice in high school. I remember telling my parents that my hand felt weird but at first they didn't want to take me to the emergency room because it was a holiday and the hospital would be packed. A few hours after practice, when my mom saw how swollen my hand was, we went to the emergency room and I was told that my hand was broken ... but I wouldn't be able to get a cast put on until the following day because it was holiday.

The rest of that day and night were horrible. I was in pain and I was told that I couldn't move my hand around or take a shower. It was quite an experience, and my parents remembered it because now, whenever there may be a chance of possibly having to go the emergency room on a holiday, they simply go as soon as possible instead of putting off.



For Pondering

- Has there ever been a time where you felt like the child or ox that fell into the cistern?
 - Has there ever been a time where you felt like the parent that had to make the decision to undertake the rescue on the sabbath day?
 - What prevents you from helping others as you help your those closest to you?
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For Prayer

*Gracious Creator,
Thank you for rescuing me
and sending people to rescue me every day of my life.
Please use me as your tool to help others in their time of need.
Amen.*

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