



Daily Reflections

JOURNEYING THROUGH LENT

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MY WORD GOES FORTH – A MONTAGE

By Sister Jeanne Fallon, CSJ

Today's Reading

Thus says the LORD: just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me void, but shall accomplish that which I propose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

ISAIAH 55:10-11

Reflection

When I saw today's reading from Isaiah, I wanted to savor it for a while. I told Sr. Hildegard that I intended to write about this scripture passage, and I asked her, "What would you say?" Pausing, she replied, "With God, nothing is wasted." Yes, a word of wisdom. As we think of the circular journey of water, beginning with the rain and snow falling on the earth, watering the ground, bringing forth life and sustaining the vibrancy of all creatures, and eventually, evaporating and

returning to the heavens, available to be given again for the life of all creation – all by God’s design – *nothing is wasted*.

Like the miracle of water, God’s word falls gently upon humankind, soaking into all of us, so that we can be drawn back to God once the word has accomplished what it was sent to do. God’s word, God’s spirit, is infused within us human beings so that it can bring forth fruits that reflect the One from whom we come. We are given this living word that we may carry forth the mission of God’s word.

In Deuteronomy 32, we hear the beginning of the Song of Moses: *“Listen heavens, while I speak; earth, hear the words I am saying. May my teaching fall like the rain, may my words drop down like the dew, like showers on the fresh grass and light rain on the turf...”* Through the words of Moses, the Hebrews were being asked to reflect upon their history, to examine and remember the times of God’s faithfulness in contrast to Israel’s disloyalty to their benevolent God.

In the Christian scriptures, we read the letter to the Hebrews where God’s word is described: *“The word of God is something alive and active; it cuts like any double-edged sword but more finely; it can slip through the place where the soul is divided from the spirit, or joints from the marrow; everything is uncovered and open to the eyes of the One to whom we must give an account of ourselves”* (Heb. 4:12-13). Alive and active, the word of God is doing something in us, penetrating into our secret inner being, helping us to discern the movements and intentions of the heart. God enables us to see the way God sees our innermost being. When we receive that grace, we can reorient the direction of the heart to be in harmony with God’s design for us. In this way, the word of God brings forth the fruitfulness that it was meant to germinate, as in the reading from Isaiah above.



For Pondering and Prayer

- As you reflect on your life, is there a time when the word of God spoke to you clearly, showing you a path forward through uncertain or troubling times?
- Did God's word speak to you through Scripture, or through the beauty of creation? In answer to prayer?
- Did God give you insight in the depths of your being in a way that you understood the divine touch of a loving God? Perhaps this is the moment to ask for the grace to be open to the movements of God's word in your innermost self.

I believe that God desires to speak tenderly and intimately to each and every one of us.

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