

May 27, 2023



Center for Spiritual Development

Daily Reflections

JOURNEYING THROUGH EASTER

Photo by Tomas Williams from Pexels

YOU FOLLOW ME

By Sister Jane DeLisle, CSJ

An Excerpt from Today's Gospel

Peter turned and saw the disciple following whom Jesus loved, the one who had also reclined upon his chest during the supper and had said, "Master, who is the one who will betray you?" When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about him?"

*Jesus said to him, "What if I want him to remain until I come? What concern is it of yours? **You follow me.**"*

JOHN 21:20-22

Reflection

Today's readings stirred a memory for me that has served me well these many years. I am the eldest in my family by many years. I took my role seriously and tried to manage the behavior of my younger brothers and sister. On one occasion, my mother took me aside saying, *"I appreciate that you are trying to*

help me. But you are the big sister; I am the mother. You only need to be good to the little ones -- let me worry about what they do. I love you all and want you to be your best self."

Jesus' message is as clear as was that of my mother: attend to how you live in right relationship; I will take care of the others. The scripture today follows the "Do you love me?" encounter between Peter and Jesus -- and Jesus telling Peter that when he grows old, a belt will be tied around him and that he will be taken where he does not want to go. A sobering thought for sure. Perhaps Peter's concern about the others was a matter of taking his elder role seriously. Or perhaps his question was an effort to deflect attention from himself by managing the apostles.

Like my mother, Jesus puts managing others into perspective. It is his loving responsibility to care for the others while Peter manages his own life in Jesus. There is plenty in his life and mine to manage each day. By attending to my relationship with God, I can respond with fidelity as Jesus directs. "You, follow me." In the end, it is about God and what God does in -- and for -- each person to freely follow.



A man forges a path through a grassy field
Photo by Vlad Bagacian / Pexels

For Pondering

- What is my personal relationship with Jesus, with God?
 - Who am I in God's eyes?
 - How do I faithfully respond to God's invitation to follow in God's ways?
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