

MORNING MEDITATION

Friday, Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

**Movement is good for the body. Stillness is good for the mind.
Serenity is good for the spirit.**

2 Timothy 3:10-17

Paul encouraged Timothy to be faithful to what he had learned and believed and to trust the Scriptures because Sacred Scriptures are sources of wisdom, inspired by God and offer direction for growing in holiness and for becoming competent in every good work.

Turn to the Sacred Scriptures for wisdom, inspiration and direction for growing in holiness and for becoming competent in every good work.

Psalm 119

**I wait for your salvation, O Lord,
And your commands I fulfill.
I keep your precepts and your decrees,
For all my ways are before you.....**

Mark 12:35-37

The title “Son of David” often referred to the idea of a conquering, warrior Messiah. It implied the political and nationalistic hopes and dreams and ambitions of the Jews at the time of Jesus. Jesus has been trying to correct this notion. He had to help his disciples and all his followers understand that he came not with political ambitions, but with serving and self-sacrificing love. He had to help them understand that he did not come to found an earthly kingdom. His purpose was the Kingdom of God.

In this excerpt, we meet Jesus trying to change the idea of a conquering, warrior Messiah who would found an earthly empire. He tried to give them a new idea of a Messiah who would be a servant of God, who would bring to people the love and compassion of God through service and surrender.

Reflect on your call to service and surrender.

Saint of the Day, June 5 - St. Boniface and 37 other saints are remembered this day.

St. Boniface was born in the year 675 in Crediton, Devon, England during very difficult circumstances. People were afraid of leaving their homes because of the vandals, warrior tribes raiding their villages. Boniface became a Benedictine monk and later a priest. He felt called to preach the Gospel to the vandals. In 719 Pope Gregory sent Boniface to Germany as a missionary and later to Holland to work with the vandals who had settled there.

Many of the Christian converts had returned to paganism, and for those who still called themselves Christian, their beliefs were not in line with all teachings of the Church. The priests themselves were lax or improperly trained. Boniface reported his findings to Pope Gregory, and Pope Gregory instructed him to reform the German Church. In 722, Boniface became Bishop. Over time, Boniface restored the obedience of the clergy to their bishops in union with the pope of Rome. He destroyed idols and pagan temples and built churches on those sites.

Many Benedictine monks and nuns followed him. He set up many prayer houses, seminaries and churches. On June 5, 754, as he was preaching the Gospel in Frisia, Boniface and several other companions were murdered by a group of local inhabitants.

Fr. Gus Tharappel,msfs