

MORNING MEDITATION

Saturday, Fourth Week of Easter

Free yourself from anyone who gets in your way of fulfilling your purpose.

Acts 13:44-52

Paul was rejected by some of the Jews of Antioch. He began to turn to the Gentiles who welcomed the new faith. Paul and Barnabas were expelled from the territory. Rejected by his own people, with great courage, he continued his missionary journey while telling them that, by their ejection, they proved themselves unworthy of everlasting life.

Learn to live lives worthy of everlasting life.

Psalms 98

**Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done wondrous deeds;
His right hand has won victory for him, his holy arm....
Sing joyfully to the Lord, all you lands; break into song; sing praise.**

John 14:7-14

“Whoever has seen me has seen the Father...I am in the Father and the Father is in me...the man who has faith in me will do the works I do and even greater than these...because it is the father who lives in me accomplishing his works...”

Jesus said that the things he said and the things he did, did not come from himself, his own initiative or his own power or his own knowledge, but from God. His word was God's word, his work was God's work, his power was God's power, his life was God's life...God came through in all he was and in all he said and in all he did...

In Jesus we meet God...God's message, God's mind, God's heart...And in us, today, the world must meet all that is from God and of God....

Jesus said that the disciples would do what he did and even greater. We, the disciples of today must continue the mission of Jesus.

We must trust the promise of Jesus that it is God, the Father, doing His work in us...speaking His word through us...working out His plan through us...

Saint of the Day, May 17 - Saint Paschal Baylon and 10 other saints are remembered this day.

Paschal Baylón was born into a poor and devout family on May 16, 1540 at Torrehermosa, in the Kingdom of Aragon, Spain. He spent his childhood and adolescence as a shepherd. He carried a book with him into the fields where he watched the sheep, and asked those that he met to teach him the letters, and so, in a short time, he learned to read. He was honest, prayerful, and generous to the poor giving a good part of his dinner to the poor. Some of his companions were much inclined to cursing, quarrelling, and fighting; but learnt to hold their tongue in his presence since they respected his pious nature and his virtue.

In 1564 he joined the Reformed Franciscans as a religious brother and made his religious profession on February 2, 1565 and spent most of his life as a humble doorkeeper. He was encouraged to become an ordained priest, but he felt that was not the path for him. He lived his vow of poverty to its extreme possessing only one habit, walking without sandals in the snow and rough roads, content with little and cheerful in all situations.

His jobs included serving as a cook and porter as well as the gardener and the official beggar who went around asking for alms. He lived his life in contemplation and silent meditation and often did this as he worked. He would spend the whole night before the altar in silence to commune with God and to meditate on the faith. He died on May 17, 1592 and was canonized on October 16, 1690.

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