



A weekly reflection by members of the Precious Blood Community

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Tim Deveney

“It’s an extraordinary thing, the moment of surrender. To get down on your knees and ask the silence to save you, to reveal itself to you.

To kneel down, to implore, to throw yourself out into space, to quietly whisper or roar your insignificance. To fall prostrate and ask to be carried.

To humble yourself with your family, your bandmates, and to discover if there’s a face or a name to that silence.” Bono

I love this little selection of the Gospel of Luke. Jesus heals Simon’s mother-in-law from a severe fever and does so on the Sabbath. It is a bit weird that she gets up and serves them right after being healed. The woman deserves some rest! She’s been sick! That aside, Jesus spends his time curing diseases and casting out demons. At the dawn of the following day he gets up and goes to a deserted place.

One of the areas that I often neglect in my life is quiet. The to-do-lists at work, home, and in my church community are long. The demands keep coming at me. I can respond to that one other email stretches out to respond to another ten. My 13 year old son, who I can still beat at basketball at the age of 46, wants to take just a few more shots on the hoop as the sun goes down. The youngest of my children begs me to play one more game of UNO Attack. My garden always has one more weed that needs to be planted, or one more pepper that needs to be picked.

When I do not have those responsibilities filling my time I pick up my phone and often mindlessly scroll through whatever others have posted or I turn on one of the streaming services we pay for. The temptation is to give in to that desire to do a bit more. We should give our all to each of these parts of our life, and God is often revealed in these parts of our lives.

However, we could take Jesus’ example here, and in other places in the Gospels, to go to a deserted place. To let the quiet overtake us and hear the voice of God in the silence. To be still and to know who God is.

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This weekly reflection is made available to all who are part of our Precious Blood family. Feel free to share it with others.

Would you be willing to write a reflection? If so, please contact Vicky Otto at votto@pbspiritualityinstitute.org