

A weekly reflection by members of the Precious Blood Community

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"Jesus answered him, No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the Kingdom of God" (Luke 9:62)



Recently, I was having lunch with my wife and a friend in a beautiful park. A woman approached us and asked, "Are you the Meet-Up Group for Improv?" We were not, but in the spirit of Improv, I said "yes", and a great conversation ensued. For Improv, the response is always "Yes, and" to keep the conversation moving forward. In life, we should also consider a spirit of "yes, and" to welcome opportunities to learn, share, and grow in our faith.

Jesus in Luke 9:57-62 may seem like He is giving us a harsh choice if we want to follow Him, but I believe He is really inviting us to say "Yes, and" instead of "Yes, but". Jesus wants us to continue to look forward to God's plan for us by giving us opportunities to say "yes". He challenges us not to get stuck in the mire of today's issues that distract us from that call to live out the Gospel as Jesus taught us through His words and actions.

By saying "yes," I took opportunities that have helped me to grow closer to God through life experiences I could never imagine. A 'yes' to a long-distance relationship led to a lifelong friend, love, and spiritual partner. A 'yes' to a mission trip to Mexico led to a long-term opportunity to create educational opportunities for others. A 'yes' to ASC Sisters in Tanzania showed me the Holy Spirit at work in so many people of God in that wonderful country.

Jesus challenged us to not just follow Him, but instead to leave behind worldly distractions, so that we could walk the journey beside Him. Next time you are offered an opportunity, say a little prayer: "Yes, Jesus, and...". You might just find God's game of Improv for you, will get you to just where you need to be!

Dan Nickerson and his wife, Ada Jimenez, are Associates of the Metro and Beyond group in the St Louis area. In 2015, they went with their daughter, Teresa, to Tanzania with the ASCs and Missionaries of the Precious Blood to work at their school. They reside in Fresno, CA and still are active as "Beyond" associates! To learn more about the Associates of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ, click here.

This weekly reflection is made available to everyone in our Precious Blood family. Feel free to share it with others. Would you like to write a reflection? If so, please contact Vicky Otto at votto@pbspiritualityinstitute.org