



A weekly reflection by members
of the Precious Blood Community

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Sr Terry Walter, C.P.P.S.

“Be pasture for the exiled.” Isaiah 49:8-15



In today's first reading from Isaiah, God assures the exiles that their return home will be blessed, accompanied, and smooth.

Along the ways they shall find pasture,
on every bare height shall their pastures be.
They shall not hunger or thirst,
nor shall the scorching wind or the sun strike them;
For he who pities them leads them
and guides them beside springs of water. (Is 49:9b-10)

We take a moment to remember all the displaced people in our world, those who have fled their homes because of violence, war, or disaster. We hold them in our hearts, as God does, in this passage of Isaiah. We feel their longing to go home. We hold their confusion, fear, and loneliness as they live as strangers in lands not their own. We feel their grief as they watch their own lands and peoples suffer.

Can we be God's message of comfort to them? Can we make their highways straighter? Can we be a good pasture for them? Can we help them feel less like strangers and more like neighbors? Can we be the tenderness of God who does not forget them?

In today's gospel (John 5:17-30), Jesus says:

Amen, amen, I say to you, the Son cannot do anything on his own,
But only what he sees the Father doing;
For what he does, the Son will

We are also called to do what we see the Father doing. When we reflect on biblical passages, such as today's from Isaiah, we can be grateful for what God has done and is doing in our lives and for how God has accompanied us on our difficult journeys and brought us home. We can also rejoice that we can accompany, with God's redemptive love, all those who suffer in our world, all who live in exile. We can do what we see the Father doing.

Sister Terry Walter, CPPS, has been a vowed member of the congregation for almost 60 years. She currently serves on the leadership team. For 25 years, she lived and ministered in Guatemala, doing mental health work and educational ministry. To learn more about the Sisters of the Precious Blood, click here: www.preciousbloodsistersdayton.org

This weekly reflection is made available to everyone in our Precious Blood family. Feel free to share it with others. If you would like to write one of these reflections occasionally, or to learn more about Precious Blood Spirituality, visit our website: pbspiritualityinstitute.org.