

Meditation 2014-03-28
Friday Of The Third Week Of Lent
Meditation Theme: "How Much Convincing Do I Need?"

Place yourself in the presence of Jesus Christ. Make sure He knows that every thought, action, and experience of today is dedicated exclusively to Him.

The Scenario: From the Gospel of today's Mass

AT that time: Jesus cometh therefore to a city of Samaria, which is called Sichar, near the land which Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore being wearied with His journey, sat thus on the well. It was about the sixth hour. There cometh a woman of Samaria, to draw water. Jesus saith to her: Give Me to drink. For His disciples were gone into the city to buy meats. Then that Samaritan woman saith to Him: How dost Thou, being a Jew, ask of me to drink, who am a Samaritan woman? For the Jews do not communicate with the Samaritans. Jesus answered, and said to her: If thou didst know the gift of God, and Who He is that saith to thee, Give Me to drink; thou perhaps wouldst have asked of Him, and He would have given thee living water. The woman saith to Him: Sir, thou hast nothing wherein to draw, and the well is deep; from whence then hast Thou living water? Art Thou greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle? Jesus answered, and said to her: Whosoever drinketh of this water, shall thirst again; but he that shall drink of the water that I will give him, shall not thirst for ever: But the water that I will give him, shall become in him a fountain of water, springing up into life everlasting. The woman saith to Him: Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come hither to draw. Jesus saith to her: Go, call thy husband, and come hither. The woman answered, and said: I have no husband. Jesus said to her: Thou hast said well, I have no husband: For thou hast had five husbands: and he whom thou now hast, is not thy husband. This thou hast said truly. The woman saith to Him: Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet. Our fathers adored on this mountain, and you say, that at Jerusalem is the place where men must adore. Jesus saith to her: Woman, believe me, that the hour cometh, when you shall neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, adore the Father. You adore that which you know not: We adore that which We know; for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true adorers shall adore the Father in spirit and in truth. For the Father also seeketh such to adore Him. God is a spirit; and they that adore Him, must adore Him in spirit and in truth. The woman saith to Him: I know that the Messiah cometh (who is called Christ); therefore, when He is come, He will tell us all things. Jesus saith to her: I am He, Who am speaking with thee. And immediately His disciples came; and they wondered that He talked with the woman. Yet no man said: What seekest Thou? or, why talkest Thou with her? The woman therefore left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men there: Come, and see a man who has told me all things whatsoever I have done. Is not He the Christ? They went therefore out of the city, and came unto Him. In the mean time the disciples prayed Him, saying: Rabbi, eat.

But He said to them: I have meat to eat, which you know not. The disciples therefore said one to another: Hath any man brought Him to eat? Jesus saith to them: My meat is to do the will of Him that sent me, that I may perfect His work. Do you not say, There are yet four months, and then the harvest cometh? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes, and see the countries; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life everlasting: that both He that soweth, and he that reapeth, may rejoice together. For in this is the saying true: That it is one man that soweth, and it is another that reapeth. I have sent you to reap that in which you did not labour: others have laboured, and you have entered into their labours. Now of that city many of the Samaritans believed in him, for the word of the woman giving testimony: He told me all things whatsoever I have done. So when the Samaritans were come to Him, they desired that He would tarry there. And He abode there two days. And many more believed in Him because of His own word. And they said to the woman: We now believe, not for thy saying: for we ourselves have heard Him, and know that this is indeed the Saviour of the world.

Point 1. – Jesus goes to Jacob’s well and meets the Samaritan woman. He tells her that He can provide “Living Water,” and proves it by showing His intimate knowledge of her personal life.

Point 2. – The Samaritan woman’s knowledge of Jesus is growing as He reveals Himself, from “Sir,” to “Prophet,” to “Christ.”

Point 3. – Jesus tells His disciples that their job will be to reap the harvest that God, and not they, will sow.

Meditation: Jesus tells a Samaritan woman, a heretic according to the Jews, Who He is in no uncertain terms. The proof He provides is convincing.

Is Jesus a guest in my home? Have I ever invited Him in? Would I if my mother-in-law was ill? Would I if she wasn’t? What would having Jesus in my home be like? Would He and I sit and visit? What would we talk about? Would I be too embarrassed or ashamed to speak? Or would I be bold, showing how good a friend I could be? Would I be so friendly that I would treat Him as an equal? Would I show any deference? Would I, in my current spiritual condition, need to?

If Jesus were in my home and my neighbors found out, would they come in too? Would I invite them in, or would they have to barge in? Would I attempt to keep the visit a secret so that others would not interrupt? Would I be willing to share Him?

Do I understand that Jesus, having other places to go and other people to see, takes nothing away from me? Do I try to keep Him for myself? Can I keep Him for myself? If I could keep Him for myself, would that mean that nobody else could have Him? If I hold Him fast, can others do so too? Is there enough of Jesus to go around?

Colloquy: Take a minute or two to converse with God, in any of His three Persons, or the Triune God complete in Himself. Tell Him what you have learned from your meditation, and thank Him for it.

Hold the Gain: Consider what you can do to keep the fruits of your meditation. Try to plan how you can think of them through the day, and through the days ahead. Come up with ways you can apply your conclusions to what you do in your everyday life, conversations you engage in, the choice of what movie to watch, what books you choose to read.