

Day 13—Monday 26 February

Scripture for Prayer

Stilling: Take a few minutes to become still.

God is Present: God is with you. Ask God to inspire your imagination.

Ask for what you desire. What gift, what grace do you want right now?

Read the Passage through.

Identify with a character: Choose one of the people in the story and imagine the scene from their point of view.

Senses: Use your five senses, imagine what you may see, hear, smell, touch and taste.

Fill in the details which the scripture leaves out to make the story real for you.

Luke 6:17-24 (NRSVA)

Jesus came down with Peter, James and John and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.

They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

‘Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

Conversation: When you come towards the end of your time of prayer, talk to Jesus about what has come up for you. Imagine how he might reply.

A Prayer: End with a formal prayer, such as the Lord's Prayer/Our Father

Review of Prayer

When you have finished look back over the prayer.

- Notice how you reacted and felt.
- Is this saying anything about you, about the way you see others or God?
- Did anything surprise you?
- Is there anything that needs healing?
- Is there anything you need to pray about in future?

Today's Meditation

Did I See You?

Did I See You, God?
On the Broadway,
where dirty garbage and broken glass
is kicked about and
scattered around
the greasy sidewalk,
I thought I smelled God.

In the bar,
with music shrieking,
air thick with tobacco haze, and
the stink of stale beer,
I thought I heard God.

In the brothel,
with its despairing waits
joyless jokes,
distorted sex and
verbal violence,
I thought I touched God.

In the soup kitchen,
where sick and lonely people
shuffled in line for
plastic plates and orange juice.
I thought I saw God.

God, God.
Oh, did I really see you, God?
Where did I see you, God?

Edwina Gateley