

PRAY EVERY DAY September 26, 2021 Resource

*A Blessing to God from Psalm 124:6-7 (NRSV)*

Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth.  
We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers;  
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

*The Bishop Sharma Lewis Read the Bible in 2021 Challenge (Genesis to Revelation)*

September 27: Habakkuk 1 - 3; Zephaniah 1 - 3

September 28: Haggai 1 - 2

October 1: Malachi 1 - 4

September 29: Zechariah 1 - 7

October 2: Matthew 1 - 4

September 30: Zechariah 8 - 14

October 3: Matthew 5 - 6

*Small Group or personal study*

Read Mark 9:38-50

- John told Jesus they told someone to stop casting out demons in the name of Jesus since that person was not one of the twelve disciples. When have you been told to stop doing something for Jesus because of some factor such as your age, gender, or “not belonging”?

- When have you wanted to tell someone to stop doing a good thing for Jesus because they did not seem to belong or be the one to do it at that time? How do you feel about that restricting someone from doing something for Jesus now?

- Jesus response to John was, “Do not stop him.” Jesus put that exorcist in the category of “little ones” who Jesus came to save and disciples are to welcome like the kingdom of God (see 9:33-7 and 10:13-16). Jesus said that people working in the name of Jesus from great things like freeing someone from trouble to little things like sharing a cup of water would receive the rewards Christ brings. The difficult sayings that follow in vv. 42-49 relate to making people stumble or be discouraged in Jesus like the unknown exorcist. Cutting people off from Jesus could lead to cutting ourselves off from Jesus.

- Jesus is not stopping you from sharing the love of Christ. Share the love of Jesus with the blessing from God.

- Who in our church or the community do you see trying to do something for Jesus? Take time today to encourage them with prayer, a card, or good word. Help the faith that Jesus is growing in them.

*A Prayer of Francis of Assisi*

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace;

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console;

to be understood, as to understand;

to be loved, as to love;

for it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.  
Amen.

*Spend time in silence*  
*Prayer for others and yourself*  
*The Lord's Prayer*

*Share the Love of Jesus because It's All about Relationships*

How will you or how did you share the love of Jesus with neighbor today with no strings attached? Write it down and share it this week in small group for support and prayer.

*Remembering our Help from Psalm 124:8 (NRSV)*

Our help is in the name of the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.