

Biblical Reflections on Christian Discipleship

The Prayer Saint Francis of Assisi before the Crucifix

Most High, glorious God,
enlighten the darkness of my heart and give me
true faith, certain hope, and perfect charity,
sense and knowledge, Lord, that I may carry out
Your holy and true command. Amen.

Genesis 3: 1-15	Where are you? Who told you that?
1 John 4: 1-6	Discerning the Spirits
John 2: 1-11	Reading the Signs
Matthew 16: 13-23	Failed Discipleship
Mark 16: 1-20	Failed Disciples Nonetheless Commissioned at Table
Matthew 26: 26-29	Four Eucharistic Actions (and Mark 14: 22-25, Luke 22: 15-20, Luke 24: 13-35, Matthew 14: 13-21, Matthew 15: 32-39, Mark 6: 30-44, Mark 8: 1-9, Luke 9: 12-17, John 6: 1-14, 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26)
Luke 24: 13-35	Sign of Recovered Discipleship

Portraits of Beloved Discipleship

John 4: 4-42	The Samaritan Woman
John 9: 1-41	The Man Born Blind
John 11: 1-44	Martha of Bethany
John 20: 24-29	My Lord and My God

John 4: 4-42 **The Samaritan Woman**

4 He had to pass through Samaria. **5** So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. **6** Jacob's well was there. Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon. **7** A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." **8** His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. **9** The Samaritan woman said to him, "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans. **10** Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." **11** The woman said to him, "Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the well is deep; where then can you get this living water? **12** Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks?" **13** Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; **14** but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." **15** The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." **16** Jesus said to her, "Go call your husband and come back." **17** The woman answered and said to

him, "I do not have a husband." Jesus answered her, "You are right in saying, 'I do not have a husband.' **18** For you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true." **19** The woman said to him, "Sir, I can see that you are a prophet. **20** Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain; but you people say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem." **21** Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. **22** You people worship what you do not understand; we worship what we understand, because salvation is from the Jews. **23** But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship him. **24** God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth." **25** The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Anointed; when he comes, he will tell us everything." **26** Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking with you." **27** At that moment his disciples returned, and were amazed that he was talking with a woman, but still no one said, "What are you looking for?" or "Why are you talking with her?" **28** The woman left her water jar and went into the town and said to the people, **29** "Come see a man who told me everything I have done. Could he possibly be the Messiah?" **30** They went out of the town and came to him. **31** Meanwhile, the disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat." **32** But he said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." **33** So the disciples said to one another, "Could someone have brought him something to eat?" **34** Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of the one who sent me and to finish his work. **35** Do you not say, 'In four months harvest will be here'? I tell you, look up and see the fields ripe for the harvest. **36** The reaper is already receiving his payment and gathering crops for eternal life, so that the sower and reaper can rejoice together. **37** For here the saying is verified that 'One sows and another reaps.' **38** I sent you to reap what you have not worked for; others have done the work, and you are sharing the fruits of their work." **39** Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me everything I have done." **40** When the Samaritans came to him, they invited him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. **41** Many more began to believe in him because of his word, **42** and they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of your word; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the savior of the world."

John 20: 24-29

My Lord and My God

24 Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. **25** So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." **26** Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." **27** Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." **28** Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" **29** Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."