



Daily Reflections

JOURNEYING THROUGH CHALLENGING TIMES

Image by Christine Sponchia from Pixabay

GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER

By Sr. Jane DeLisle, CSJ

Today's First Reading

Brothers and sisters, consider this:

*whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,
and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.*

*Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion,
for God loves a cheerful giver.*

*Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you,
so that in all things, always having all you need,
you may have an abundance for every good work....*

*The one who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food
will supply and multiply your seed
and increase the harvest of your righteousness.*

*You are being enriched in every way for all generosity,
which through us produces thanksgiving to God.*

Reflection

Perspective shapes one's life. Some are born with a tendency to see the world as a place of beauty and abundance, full of possibilities. Others may see the beauty, but are caught up with what is missing and live in the struggle.

Fortunately, I am among those of the first group. I often think, "What fun and possibility awaits the new dawn?" There really isn't a problem that can't be solved by working together. There is abundance and beauty to be enjoyed and shared. Today's readings invite us to a perspective of abundance and possibility. Give of oneself freely and enjoy the moment.

I recently read that an optimist is someone with an abundant mentality who is genuinely happy for others when they achieve success. Conversely, those with a scarcity mindset are competitive and resent other's success. (Source: Success Consciousness)

As the eldest child in my family by several years, attending to the need of others comes naturally to me. Sharing among ourselves and looking out for one another was the way encouraged by my Mom.

To this day, I enjoy gathering people and employing their many and complementary talents to create something that is life-giving and inviting. The more we give, the more we seem to receive in satisfaction and delight in the goodness of all who participate. I enjoy being engaged in ministries of service that are modeled on the life of Jesus, God's desire for union, and a building up of God's people. By God's abiding presence, life flourishes, joy deepens, and all come to greater wholeness and integrity. There is enough for us all to enjoy. Working together brightens the effort, releases creativity, and whatever is done is better for our collective contribution. May we form a community of **"cheerful givers,"** and delight in God's great love and abundance.



Seeds of Life
Painted by Sr. Jeannette Black, CSJ

For Pondering

- What is mine to do?
 - What do God and the dear neighbor have for me today?
 - Give thank and praise to God for what is goodness all around.
 - Pray for the ability to find God in all things and circumstances.
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