

Daily Reflection on Scripture
Week of March 26
Finding Wisdom in the Wilderness
A Time for Interdependence



Each day slowly read the scripture a couple of times. Close your eyes and be with it for a moment in silence. How did it speak to you?

Sunday, March 26:

Proverbs 3:27-29 Never walk away from someone who deserves help; your hand is God's hand for that person. Don't tell your neighbor "Maybe some other time" or "Try me tomorrow" when the money's right there in your pocket. Don't figure ways of taking advantage of your neighbor when he's sitting there trusting and unsuspecting.

Sacred Pause: More than being dependent or independent we need to practice interdependence. Everyone has something to give to and receive from the other.

Monday, March 27:

Matthew 5:42 Give to those who ask, and don't refuse those who wish to borrow from you.

Sacred Pause: Interdependence means sometimes we have what others need and we should share it joyfully. Reciprocally others share joyfully what we need.

Tuesday, March 28:

Romans 12:13 Contribute to the needs of God's people, and welcome strangers into your home.

Sacred Pause: Interdependence is about showing up as angels to help those in need. Sometimes the strangers we help turn out to be angels blessing us.

Wednesday, March 29:

Romans 15:1-2 Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us. Strength is for service, not status. Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, "How can I help?"

Sacred Pause: Strength is for service, not status. Use your strength to care for the people around you. Both weak and strong give something to the other.

Thursday, March 30:

Luke 3:11 Whoever has two shirts must share with the one who has none, and whoever has food must do the same.

Sacred Pause: The reason it appears that there is not enough to go around in the world is because we fail to see the world as being interdependent.

Friday, March 31:

James 2:14-17 My brothers and sisters, what good is it if people say they have faith but do nothing to show it? Claiming to have faith can't save anyone, can it? Imagine a brother or sister who is naked and never has enough food to eat. What if one of you said, "Go in peace! Stay warm! Have a nice meal!"? What good is it if

you don't actually give them what their body needs? In the same way, faith is dead when it doesn't result in faithful activity.

Sacred Pause: As a noun, "faith" changes very little. As a verb, "faith" can change the world. What good is "faith" if it doesn't change anything?

Saturday, April 1:

Luke 6:37-38 "Don't pick on people, jump on their failures, criticize their faults—unless, of course, you want the same treatment. Don't condemn those who are down; that hardness can boomerang. Be easy on people; you'll find life a lot easier. Give away your life; you'll find life given back, but not merely given back—given back with bonus and blessing. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity."

Sacred Pause: Interdependence is a reciprocal relationship. We give what is needed to help someone and then both the giver and receiver are given joy.