

Reflection Tuesday Week 20 – 2021

Inherent in the Jewish faith in Jesus' day was the belief that those who lead good and faithful lives would be blessed with riches and those who were unfaithful or who broke the Law would be poor. So, Jesus saying that it is harder for a rich man to get to heaven was truly counter cultural. What is hard for us to believe is that salvation is a completely free gift. It cannot be earned. Although we live in the way Jesus asked us to live, it is not for the reward, not to show we are worthy of the gift or even some kind of payback. Jesus' response to Peter's question "What's in it for us?" implies that living in God's way brings its own rewards. Ultimately this suggests that we live in God's way not to get to heaven or for the rewards but out of our love of God and the deep desire to help the world be a better place for everyone.

"God loves each of us as if there were only one of us" - Augustine

"God never said that the journey would be easy, but He did say that the arrival would be worthwhile" - Max Lucado

"Relying on God has to start all over everyday, as if nothing has yet been done." – C. S. Lewis

"The best and most beautiful things in this world cannot be seen or even heard, but must be felt with the heart." - Helen Keller