

## Reflection Thursday week 16 2022

It is possible to think that Jesus speaks clearly to his disciples while speaking in riddles to the people because they are outsiders. This would contradict the purpose of speaking in parables which use helpful and familiar images in order to lead people towards a better understanding of a deeper message. The Jerusalem Bible translates the passage rather differently:

*“Those who saw so dimly could be further blinded by the light of full revelation. Jesus, therefore, does not reveal with complete clarity the true nature of the messianic kingdom which is unostentatious. Instead, he filters the light through symbols, the resulting half-light is nevertheless a grace from God, an invitation to ask for something better and accept something greater.”*

This shows that when reading scripture, the words and events of Jesus' life have been through many filters, beginning with the first writers who had probably heard many different versions of Jesus' words and stories. The words and events were then translated into the local language and idiom and then into Latin and Greek. Finally, they were translated into more modern languages that understood the idioms and images differently to the original hearers. We, the hearers, have our own filters of background, tradition and culture. Fortunately, the Holy Spirit is fully aware of all this and will respond to you through scripture in a way that is unique to you – that is if you allow the Spirit to do so.

Most of all, Jesus reassures us that our eyes and our ears have been blessed in a way to help us hear and see what the Spirit has to say.

**I sent my hearing aids for repair 2 weeks ago.** Haven't heard anything since??

The famous tennis star was arrested by the police for hanging his tennis equipment and kits from his ears. The police have arrested him on the charge of racket-ear-ing!