

Reflection Monday Week 4 – 2024

It is interesting that Jesus crosses to gentile territory that his disciples would have considered enemy territory. If he went there to escape the crowds, it did not work. He encounters a man filled with a multitude of demons strong enough to break chains. Jesus, who tells his followers to preach to their own people first, seems to take time out to heal the foreigner and a non-believer. Would that this could happen in Gaza today!

Subsequently the man wants to become a follower of Jesus, a disciple, but Jesus tells him to stay home and tell the people what had happened to him; what we would call *Good News*. Mark says that this had a great impact on the people.

This is encouraging. It may not be possible to become missionaries, priests or religious or adopt a special ministry in the Church but all can share their faith and tell others how Jesus has intervened in their lives in a way that is healing and uplifting, especially in their families. Our stories do not need to be as elaborate as the story we hear today but it can still have the same impact.

Sr Macrina Wiederkehr osb was abundantly aware of the miracle of Jesus in her life.

There is something in me that is not content to hang about directionless along the edge of the path ... A thirst in me so deep it will move aside the rocks, seeking moisture. There is a yearning that is intense in its desire to put God first.

It may take a lifetime, but I have no doubt this unnameable Mystery within, the seed that fell at the beginning of creation, will finally crowd out the thorns

Yes, there is One who believes in me enough to continue singing up the country of my heart.