



Essential Evangelization

Do You Recognize Jesus?

In today's Gospel we hear the wonderful story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus who were joined along the way by Our Lord. It is almost humorous yet befitting that even though their "hearts were burning" for the fulfillment of the Word, that they didn't recognize Jesus until the breaking of the bread. In imitating the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, Jesus gives us an important truth that only us Catholics can appreciate. How precious is this revelation that the disciples witnessed the True Presence in such a deep way. And after the Resurrection!

There is however another, deeper and subtler meaning in this scripture passage. It has to do with recognizing Jesus in our everyday life. Our blessed Mother Teresa is said to have been able to recognize Jesus in the poor and destitute of the streets of Calcutta. It has also been said that our soon to be saint, the great Pope John Paul II, had Jesus in his very own eyes for all that he met.

Do we recognize Jesus in our everyday?

- In our family and in our friends, and all we meet?
- In those we touch in our daily work life?
- How about those from the "other" political party?
- Those that do not like us and say bad things about us?
- Those that persecute us daily because of their life's poor disposition or bad attitude?
- Those of other Christian faiths or even those of other world religions?
- Those stricken with natural disaster such as those of Katrina, Haiti and Japan?
- In the people and staff of our parish?
- In the Sacraments and Holy Eucharist?

And most importantly:

- Do we recognize Jesus as our needed Savior for our sins?
- Do we recognize Jesus as the Lord and center of our life?
- And finally, do others recognize Jesus daily in you and me?

"The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of bread. Luke 24: 34-35

*This is one of a series of articles on
Evangelization from the
Evangelization Committee*