





Among the oppressed and destitute were many women, and Jesus held them in special regard. Women marginalized by society were welcomed with dignity by the Savior, who also attended to their needs; thus, they were relieved of their anguish and their evils. Jesus' compassion and merciful acts were constantly manifested toward these women.

Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well is an example for all those who work on behalf of women, wherever they are and whatever their condition, whether they are poor, marginalized, sinners, widows, mothers, prostitutes or oppressed by the devil. By giving the Samaritan woman the water of life, Jesus freed her from oppression and guilt, enabling her to live better and become one of His witnesses (John 4:1-26). The Samaritan woman was thirsty, poor, had to carry her own water, was tired and needy, and Jesus met her physical, social, and spiritual needs.





The way Jesus handled the situation of the woman caught in adultery and the situations of many other women indicates his interest in alleviating and restoring the dignity of women and demonstrates that his love has no preference for any class of people. Jesus crossed cultural barriers and even went against strong religious traditions, in order to heal, save and develop the gifts and lives of women for his Kingdom. The love of Jesus has no limits, no strings attached, and is bestowed upon all women in need. Consider the following examples of women to whom the Savior manifested His saving love.

The Canaanite
Woman
(Matt. 15:21-28;
Mark 7:24-30)

God can use you to teach others a lesson. He also wants your faith to show. Remember that God is attentive to your needs and willing to help you: insist.



A Syrophoenician woman asks Jesus to heal her daughter who is severely tormented by a demon. By His words, Jesus seems not to want to grant the healing. She insists. The disciples are annoyed by the desperate pleas of this gentile woman, whom they did not consider more worthy than a dog. Not only is she a stranger, but she is a woman, and even more, she is a foreigner.



Jesus wants you to learn the lesson: You must accept everyone as God's children, without distinction on the basis of race, gender, or social position. She continues to insist because she seems to have detected the tender compassion that flows in abundance from the loving heart of Christ. The mere fact that He discussed the matter with her—instead of abruptly dismissing her as the rabbis would have done,—gave her courage to believe that Jesus would accede to her request.



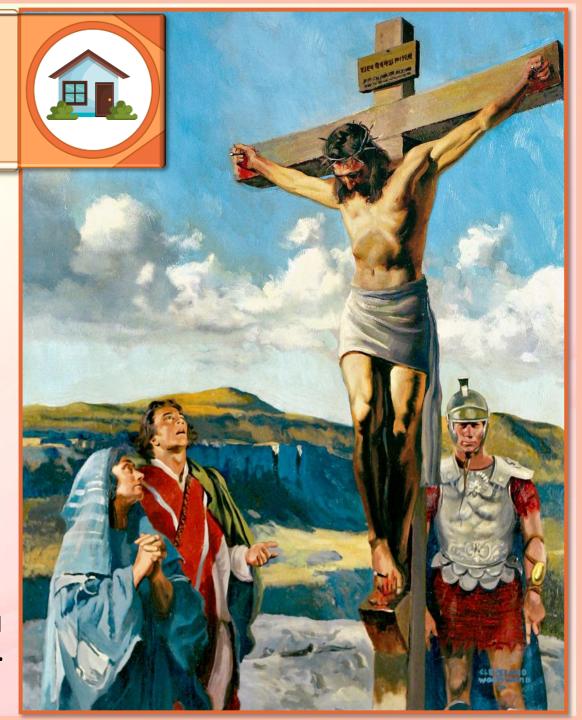
He notices in the Master's voice that he shows no trace of impatience, and his face only reveals the serene dignity and infinite tenderness that he always lets through. So, she insists even comparing herself to a dog that eats crumbs that fall from the table. The woman faces the trial, and her faith remains firm.

Then she hears from the lips of Jesus: "O woman, great is your faith; be done to you as you wish. And his daughter was healed from that hour."

Mary, the Mother of Jesus (John 19:25-27)

Jesus, who is compassionate and loving, sees your situation. He cares about you. Trust that he will provide you with a safe place, and someone who loves and cares for you.

Jesus is on the cross. He is wounded and about to die. "As the eyes of Jesus wandered over the multitude about Him, one figure arrested His attention. At the foot of the cross stood His mother, supported by the disciple John. She could not endure to remain away from her Son; and John, knowing that the end was near, had brought her again to the cross. In His dying hour, Christ remembered His mother. Looking into her grief-stricken face and then upon John, He said to her, "Woman, behold thy son!" then to John, "Behold thy mother!" John understood Christ's words, and accepted the trust. He at once took Mary to his home, and from that hour cared for her tenderly. O pitiful, loving Saviour; amid all His physical pain and mental anguish, He had a thoughtful care for His mother! He had no money with which to provide for her comfort; but He was enshrined in the heart of John, and He gave His mother to him as a precious legacy. Thus, He provided for her that which she most needed,—the tender sympathy of one who loved her because she loved Jesus. And in receiving her as a sacred trust, John was receiving a great blessing. She was a constant reminder of his beloved Master." DA 752



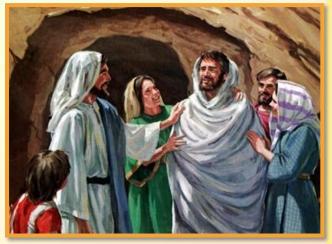
Martha and Mary (John 11:17-37)

Jesus at all times had words of comfort to the sisters. When you are going through such difficult times as the death of a loved one, read the words of Jesus and you will receive comfort.



Martha, Mary, and Lazarus were close friends of Jesus. Lazarus became ill, and Martha and Mary called Jesus. Jesus was slow to go and Lazarus died. When Jesus arrived, Martha went out to meet him.

With human and divine pity Jesus looked into her sorrowful, careworn face. Martha had no inclination to recount the past; all was expressed by the pathetic words, "Lord, if Thou hadst been here, my brother had not died." But looking into that face of love, she added, "I know, that even now, whatsoever Thou wilt ask of God, God will give it Thee." Jesus encouraged her faith, saying, "Thy brother shall rise again." His answer was not intended to inspire hope of an immediate change. He carried Martha's thoughts beyond the present restoration of her brother, and fixed them upon the resurrection of the just. This He did that she might see in the resurrection of Lazarus a pledge of the resurrection of all the righteous dead, and an assurance that it would be accomplished by the Saviour's power. DA 529-530







It was a mournful scene. Lazarus had been much beloved, and his sisters wept for him with breaking hearts, while those who had been his friends mingled their tears with those of the bereaved sisters. In view of this human distress, and of the fact that the afflicted friends could mourn over the dead while the Saviour of the world stood by,—"Jesus wept." Though He was the Son of God, yet He had taken human nature upon Him, and He was moved by human sorrow. His tender, pitying heart is ever awakened to sympathy by suffering. DA 533

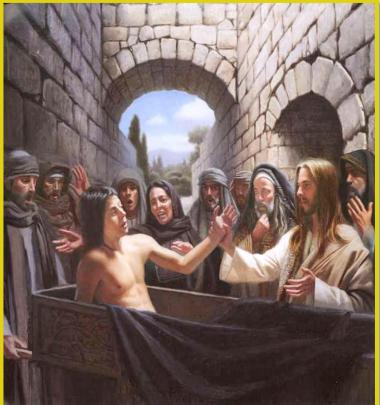
The Widow of Nain (Luke 7:11-17)

Even if we don't make any audible request to God, God answers our silent request. Remember that Jesus' love and compassion are still the same today as they were when he lived here and are the reason for miracles.



A widowed woman was going to bury her only son. The widow's plight evidently touched the hearts of the villagers, and many of them accompanied her to the funeral. Then she met Jesus and His companions. The sympathy of the villagers for the widow was echoed in the

sympathy of the great Giver of life.



Jesus' love and compassion frequently appear as a motive for performing His miracles (Matt. 14:14; 15:32; 20:34; Mar. 1:41; 8:2; etc.). The widow's lips made no request, and, so far as is known, no plea rose from her heart. But Jesus, with his sympathy for suffering humanity, answered silent prayer, as He still does many times on our behalf.

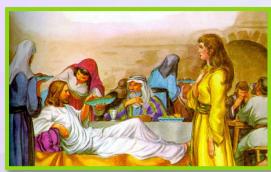


Jesus said to her, "Do not weep." The widow had every reason to be deeply sad. But Jesus was about to give her the greatest joy possible, and it was not appropriate for her to continue shedding tears, unless they were of joy. "And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise. And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother. And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited His people.." (Luke 7:14-16)

Mary Magdalene (John 12:1-11; Matt. 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; Luc. 7:36-50)

Jesus is willing to honor you in the presence of those who feel they have a valid reason to despise and ignore you.

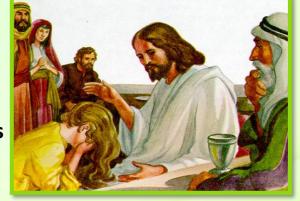






Simon had been healed of the leprosy, and it was this that had drawn him to Jesus. He desired to show his gratitude, and at Christ's last visit to Bethany he made a feast for the Saviour and His disciples.

Mary was earnestly listening to every word from the lips of Jesus. In His mercy, Jesus had pardoned her sins, He had called forth her beloved brother from the grave, and Mary's heart was filled with gratitude.



She had heard Jesus speak of His approaching death, and in her deep love and sorrow she had longed to show Him honor. At great personal sacrifice she had purchased an alabaster box of "ointment of spikenard, very costly," with which to anoint His body. But now many were declaring that He was about to be crowned king. Her grief was turned to joy, and she was eager to be first in honoring her Lord. Breaking her box of ointment, she poured its contents upon the head and feet of Jesus; then, as she knelt weeping, moistening them with her tears, she wiped His feet with her long, flowing hair[...]. DG 50

Jude criticized it by saying that it could have been sold at a great price, and given to the poor. Jesus defended, revalued, and honored her by saying: "For in that she hath poured this ointment on my body, she did it for my burial. Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her." (Matthew 26:12-13)

Mary
Magdalene
(John 20:10-18)

Don't cry anymore. God is there with you, even if you don't see Him or recognize Him. Wipe away your tears and go encourage, help and give to others the good things of the eternal gospel. God is with you in every moment and circumstance.



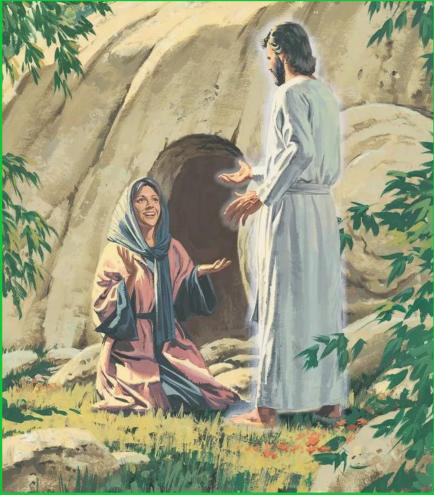


Jesus had died. Mary went to the tomb weeping and looked inside. There she saw an angel at the head and another at the feet, where the body of Jesus had been laid. And they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."

When she had said this, she turned, and saw Jesus standing there; but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?" She thought it was the gardener, and asked him if he knew where Jesus' body was. Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him: Raboni! (Teacher). Mary Magdalene then went to give the disciples the news that she had seen the Lord, and that he had told her these things.







Sick Woman

(Luke 8:43-48; Matthew 9:20-22; Mark 5:25-34) God admires you and desires to make your faith public. He wants to remove superstitious thoughts from your mind and for you to recognize the blessings He gives you so that you will praise and glorify Him before others.





Because of the loss of blood from her illness, this woman must have been physically very weak, as well as being discouraged by the many vain attempts to be cured by the doctors. The nature of the disease itself, along with the ritual impurity it implied, was also embarrassing. It may be that she had hesitated to verbally present her request to Jesus, especially in the presence of so many strangers, that He would not ask her as to the nature of her wrongdoing, which Jesus seems to have done in some cases.



Jesus did not seem to have immediately identified the woman, perhaps to give her a chance to speak first. There are several reasons why Jesus did not allow the woman to go quietly, unnoticed: (1) Jesus wanted the woman's faith to be an example for others to follow. (2) He wanted her to go away with the lasting joy of knowing that she had been personally noticed by Jesus and recognized by Him. (3) He wished to remove from her mind any superstitious thought that the cure had been effected as a result of a mere touch. (4) For her benefit, He desired her to acknowledge the blessing she had received. To be healed of her disease, but not to be "saved" from the disease of sin, would be only a transitory benefit.

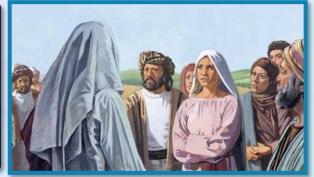
Jesus wanted the woman to understand that it was faith that had healed her tormented body and not the surreptitious touch. A public affirmation by Christ that it was faith that healed would be effective in preventing the rumor that healing had been effected by magic. No matter how imperfect the woman's faith may have been, it was genuine—a faith that was in proportion to her limited knowledge and limited understanding of God's will and His ways.

The Samaritan Woman

(John 4:1-42)

God wants to talk to you personally because, although He knows everything about you, He wants to show you that He, the water of Life, is the best way to quench your thirst. Look for it every day and from the joy you will have you will only share it with those around you.

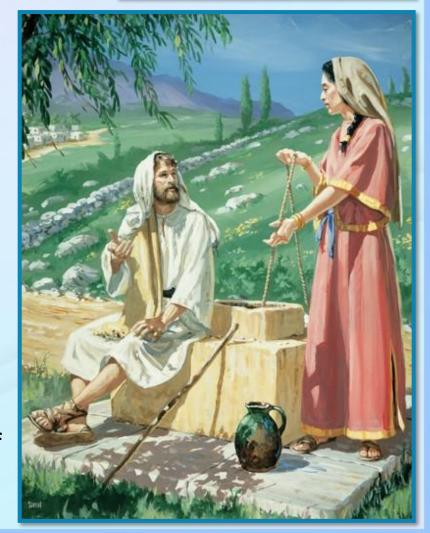




Jesus was waiting for His disciples at the side of a well in a village in Samaria, Sychar. A woman went to draw water from the well. Jesus asked her for a drink and so the conversation began.

Jesus, as a man, spoke openly about theology with a woman. Jesus, as a Jew, a sked to drink from the ritually unclean bucket of a Samaritan woman. Jesus did not avoid her, despite knowing her marital history: she had five previous husbands and was now living with a man who was not her husband, that is, she was considered a sinner. Jesus revealed to here that He was the Messiah.

Then she went anxious to get to the village and tell others about her great discovery, and she did not worry about the pitcher. She had experienced desire, conviction, and decision, and the next logical step was action: she went to tell others about it. This testified to the reality of her decision. The pitcher that awaited her was a mute evidence of her intention to return without delay. The woman's report impressed the villagers and prompted them to investigate. At first their belief was based on the woman's report, but after due investigation, it depended on their own verification.



Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susanna, and others (Luke 8:1-3) Use your talents, your resources, and your time to take the gospel to others. You will be blessed because God will grow your spirituality and increase everything you invest.



And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve were with him, And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance. (Luke 8:1-3)

Jesus and his disciples had a common fund (John 13:29), and it seems that these disciples helped to keep the fund from being depleted. This group of godly women may be said to have been the first female missionary society of the Christian church.





The Crippled Woman (Luke 13:10-13)

God gives you unexpected gifts. He wants to lay his hands on you and work a miracle. Praise him and glorify him for his love for you.



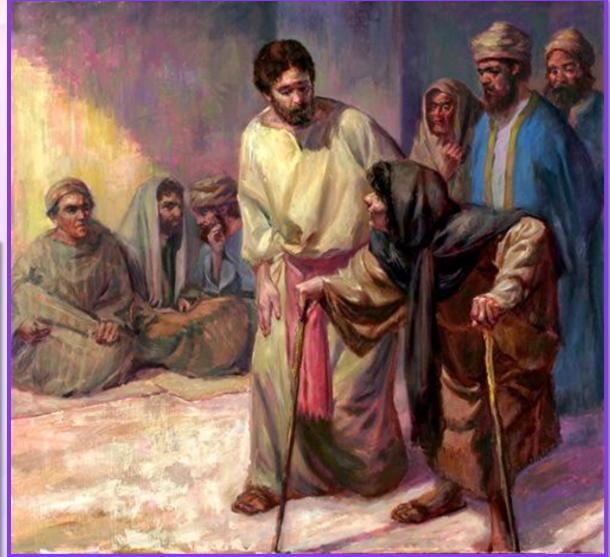
The compassionate heart of Christ was touched at the sight of this suffering woman. BLJ 148

Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: Psalms 50:23

Jesus was teaching in a synagogue on the Sabbath, and there was a crippled woman there who was bent over and couldn't straighten up. Jesus said to her, "Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity." (Luke 13:12). What a relief to be delivered after being crippled by an evil spirit for 18 years! The account says that Jesus laid his hands on her, and immediately the woman straightened up and was able to praise God in her newfound freedom.







The Widow and Her Offering (Mark 12:41-44; Luke 21:1-4) God is interested in the amount of love and consecration that the gift represents, not in its monetary value. This is the only basis God uses to reward and praise you.





Jesus was seated in the temple where he could watch worshipers giving their offerings. No doubt one rich man after another passed by and deposited their offering, dropping them so that the noise would reach all the worshippers.

Jesus saw a widow come and throw in two mites, all that she had, all her sustenance. Then He exalted her before His disciples.

The widow's mite has been like a tiny stream flowing down through the ages, widening and deepening in its course, and contributing in a thousand directions to the extension of the truth and the relief of the needy. The influence of that small gift has acted and reacted upon thousands of hearts in every age and in every country. As the result, unnumbered gifts have flowed into the treasury of the Lord from the liberal, self-denying poor. And again, her example has stimulated to good works thousands of ease-loving, selfish, and doubting ones, and their gifts also have gone to swell the value of her offering.—The Signs of the Times, November 15, 1910. CS 178.3



Peter's

Mother-in-law
(Matthew 8:14,
15; Mark 1:29, 30;
Luke 4:38, 39)

God doesn't want to see you sick. He takes you by the hand with familiarity, heals you, and so you can continue to serve Him and others.



Peter is the only one of the twelve who is specifically mentioned as being married, although in view of the fact that most Jews married, it is believed that, if not all, most of the other disciples also had wives.

This is the first miracle recorded by the three synoptic authors. Due to the swamps that were not far from Capernaum, whose climate was subtropical, it is assumed that it could have been a case of paludism or malaria.



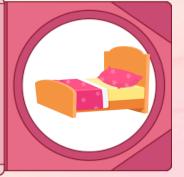
The disciples then demonstrated their confidence in Jesus by immediately turning to Him in a time of physical distress.

Jesus touched her hand. This act was a personal touch of amiable sympathy commonly employed by Jesus. The woman was healed by contact with divine power, through faith. The soul that is sick with sin also needs to feel the touch of a hand that expresses warm sympathy.

In Luke, it is recorded that Peter's mother-in-law arose "instantly." In addition, it is seen that she was able to continue with the activities of her home before sunset. A prolonged fever usually weakens the victim, and it takes a lapse before the vital forces of the body regain their normal vigour; But this woman's healing was evidently instantaneous.

Jairus'
Daughter
(Matthew 9.18–26;
Mark 5.21–43;
Luke 8.40–56)

Death is inevitable, but when Jesus returns, He will say to you: "Girl, I say to you: get up." Trust in God because He tells you that He is the Resurrection and the Life. (Jn. 11:25) Then we will all eat together celebrating the wedding of the Lamb.



A leading man went to Jesus and bowed down before Him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." And Jesus arose and followed him.

"And he suffered no man to follow him, save Peter, and James, and John the brother of James. And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and seeth the tumult, and them that wept and wailed greatly. And when he was come in, he saith unto them, Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn. But when he had put them all out, he taketh the father and the mother of the damsel, and them that were with him, and entereth in where the damsel was lying. And he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise. And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was of the age of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment. And he charged them straitly that no man should know it; and commanded that something should be given her to eat." (Marcos 5:35-43)



Jesus approached the bedside, and, taking the child's hand in His own, He pronounced softly, in the familiar language of her home, the words, "Damsel, I say unto thee, arise." Instantly a tremor passed through the unconscious form. The pulses of life beat again. The lips unclosed with a smile. The eyes opened widely as if from sleep, and the maiden gazed with wonder on the group beside her. She arose, and her parents clasped her in their arms, and wept for joy. DA 343

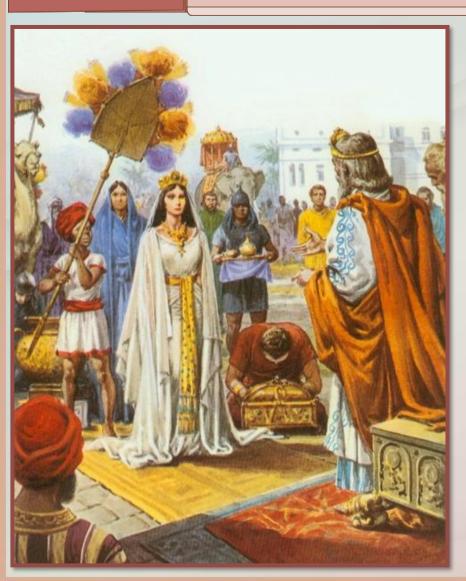
Saving faith is a transaction, by which those who receive Christ join themselves in covenant relation with God. A living faith means an increase of vigor, a confiding trust, by which, through the grace of Christ, the soul becomes a conquering power. Faith is a mightier conqueror than death. If the sick can be led to fix their eyes in faith upon the Mighty Healer, we shall see wonderful results. It will bring life to the body and to the soul. MH 62

The Queen of Sheba (Mt. 12:42; Lc. 11:31)

God wants you to continually seek heavenly wisdom. He is rich in it and is looking forward to sharing it with you.



Jesus presented the Queen of Sheba as a model of faith for His hearers. The queen of Sheba, hearing of Solomon's fame for the name of Jehovah, came to test him with difficult questions. And Solomon answered all her questions, and there was nothing that the king did not answer.



And when the gueen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to prove him with hard questions. And she came to Jerusalem with a very great train, with camels that bare spices, and very much gold, and precious stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart. And Solomon told her all her questions: there was not any thing hid from the king, which he told her not. And when the queen of Sheba had seen all Solomon's wisdom, and the house that he had built, And the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel, and his cupbearers, and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the Lord; there was no more spirit in her. And she said to the king, It was a true report that I heard in mine own land of thy acts and of thy wisdom. Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it: and, behold, the half was not told me: thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard. Happy are thy men, happy are these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and that hear thy wisdom. Blessed be the Lord thy God, which delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel: because the Lord loved Israel for ever, therefore made he thee king, to do judgment and justice." (1 Kings 10:1-9)

Divine wisdom, which was evident in what Solomon said, convinced the queen of Sheba that God was with the king. Like Jonah, Solomon did not perform any miracles; His words were enough. If the words of Jonah and Solomon did not give evidence that God spoke through them, Jesus was insinuating that His own words should also suffice.

The Mother of the Zebedees (Mr. 10.35–45; Mt. 20.20–28)

Even if you "don't know what you are asking for," pray to God and ask Him for what is in your heart. God will understand what is behind your requests and will give you what is best for you.

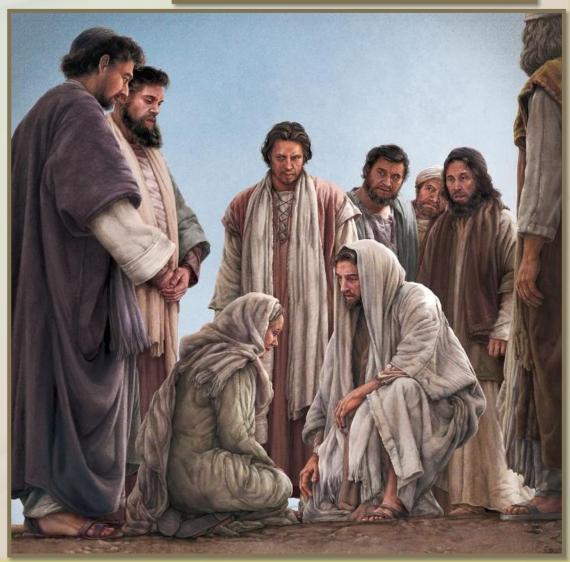




Daring and pretentious, the mother of James and John asks Jesus for nothing less than that her children sit one on his right and one on his left in the Kingdom. James and John asked for the two positions of greatest honor and privilege. "But Jesus said unto them, Ye know not what ye ask: can ye drink of the cup that I drink of? and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"

This figurative expression represents the sufferings that Jesus was to endure in Gethsemane, at his trial, and on the cross (Matt. 26:39; Mark 14:36; Luc. 22: 42; John 18:11). A vessel, or chalice, is a biblical figure commonly employed to represent suffering or punishment (Isa. 51:17; Jer. 49:12; Lam. 4:21; see on Ps. 11:6; 16:5). The "baptism" represents His death (see Rom. 6:3-4; on Luke 12:50). They responded: "We are able."

"James was the first matrir of the twelve (Acts 12: 2), his brother John lived longer than all the other disciples (AA 542, 569), he was banished to Patmos and suffered also for the Master.



The Women of Jerusalem (Luke 23:27-31)

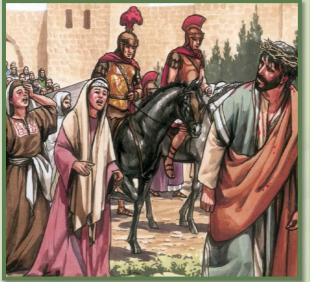
God is not indifferent to the expression of sorrow that you emit. He looks at you with tender compassion. Even if you don't believe in Him, if you are moved by feelings of human compassion. God does not despise your sympathy, but it awakens in His heart a deeper sympathy for you.



And they took him and took a certain Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and put the cross on him to carry after Jesus.



And a great multitude of the people followed him, and of women weeping and mourning for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days will come when they will say, Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that did not conceive, and the breasts that nurtured not. Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us; and to the hills: Cover us. For if they do these things in the green tree, what will not be done in the dry tree?"



When Jesus was going up to Golgotha through the streets of Jerusalem this was the only thing that attracted Christ's attention. Although full of suffering, while bearing the sins of the world, He was not indifferent to the expression of grief. He looked upon these women with tender compassion. They were not believers in Him; He knew that they were not lamenting Him as one sent from God, but were moved by feelings of human pity. He did not despise their sympathy, but it awakened in His heart a deeper sympathy for them. DA 743.1

The
Adulterous
Woman
(John 8:1-11)

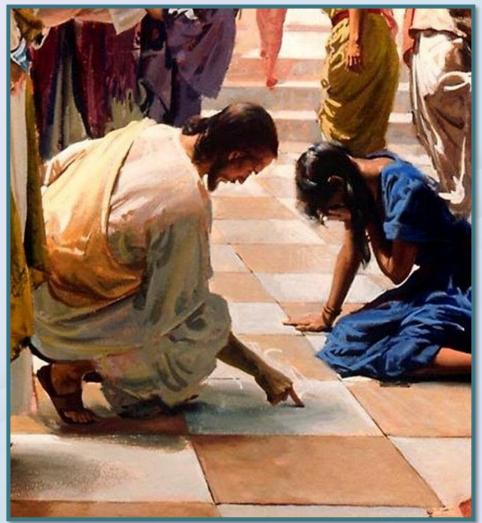
Those around you may despise and condemn you, even if they want you to die. Jesus does not condemn you. He wants to forgive you and save you. He wants you to live a new life of purity and peace. Jesus says to you today, "Neither do I condemn you: go, and sin no more."



While Jesus was teaching in the temple, a woman was brought to Him, who was caught in adultery. They asked Jesus, in order to ensnare Him, if they were stoning her.

The woman had stood before Jesus, cowering with fear. His words, "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone," had come to her as a death sentence. She dared not lift her eyes to the Saviour's face, but silently awaited her doom. In astonishment she saw her accusers depart speechless and confounded; then those words of hope fell upon her ear, "Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more." Her heart was melted, and, casting herself at the feet of Jesus, she sobbed out her grateful love and with bitter tears confessed her sins.

This was to her the beginning of a new life, a life of purity and peace, devoted to God. In the uplifting of this fallen soul, Jesus performed a greater miracle than in healing the most grievous physical disease; He cured the spiritual malady which is unto death everlasting. This penitent woman became one of His most steadfast followers. With self-sacrificing love and devotion she showed her gratitude for His forgiving mercy. For this erring woman the world had only contempt and scorn, but the Sinless One pitied her weakness and reached to her a helping hand. While the hypocritical Pharisees denounced, Jesus bade her, "Go, and sin no more." ." MH 89.



- God can use you to teach others a lesson. He also wants your faith to show. Remember that God is attentive to your needs and willing to help you: insist.
- Jesus who is compassionate and loving, sees your situation. He cares about you. Trust that he will provide you with a safe place, and someone who loves and cares for you.
- Jesus at all times had words of comfort to the sisters. When you are going through such difficult times as the death of a loved one, read the words Jesus says and you will receive comfort.
- Even if we don't make any audible request to God, God answers our silent request. Remember that Jesus' love and compassion are still the same today as they were when he lived here and are the reason for miracles.
- Jesus is willing to honor you in the presence of those who feel they have a valid reason to despise and ignore you.

- Don't cry anymore. God is there with you, even if you don't see Him or recognize Him. Wip away your tears and go encourage, help and give to others the good things of the eternal gospel. God is with you in every moment and circumstance.
- God admires you and desires to make your faith public. He wants to remove superstitious thoughts from your mind and for you to recognize the blessings he gives you so that you will praise and glorify him before others.
- God wants to talk to you personally because, although He knows everything about you, He wants to show you that He, the water of Life, is the best way to quench your thirst. Look for it every day and from the joy you will have you will only share it with those around you.
- Use your talents, your resources, and your time to take the gospel to others. You will be blessed because God will grow your spirituality and increase everything you invest.
- God gives you unexpected gifts. He wants to lay his hands on you and work a miracle. Praise him and glorify him for his love for you.

God is interested in the amount of love and consecration that the gift represents, not in its monetary value. This is the only basis God uses to reward and praise you.

God doesn't want to see you sick. He takes you by the hand with familiarity, heals you, and so you can continue to serve Him and others.

Death is inevitable, but when Jesus returns he will say to you: "Girl, I say to you: get up." Trust in God because He tells you that it is the resurrection and the life. (Jn. 11:25) Then we will all eat together celebrating the wedding of the Lamb.

God wants you to continually seek heavenly wisdom. He is rich in it and is looking forward to sharing it with you.

Even if you "don't know what you are asking for," pray to God and ask Him for what is in your heart. God will understand what is behind your requests and will give you what is best for you.

God is not indifferent to the expression of sorrow that you emit. He looks at you with tender compassion. Even if you don't believe in Him, if you are moved by feelings of human compassion. God does not despise your sympathy, but it awakens in his heart a deeper sympathy for you.

Those around you may despise and condemn you, even if they want you to die. Jesus does not condemn you. He wants to forgive you and save you. He wants you to live a new life of purity and peace. Jesus says to you today, "Neither do I condemn you: go, and sin no more."

Every morning dedicate yourself, soul, body, and spirit, to God. Establish habits of devotion and trust more and more in your Saviour. You may believe with all confidence that the Lord Jesus loves you and wishes you to grow up to His stature of character. He wishes you to grow in His love, to increase and strengthen in all the fullness of divine love. Then you will gain a knowledge of the highest value for time and for eternity.—Letter 36, 1901 (In Heavenly Places, 227)

LENER LE