

Concern of the Spirit

Romans 8:1-11

New
Testament
Reading

"The concern of the flesh is death, but the concern of the spirit is life and peace." Romans 8:6

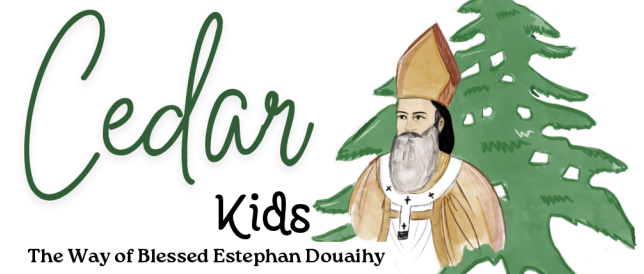
Have you ever heard of Saint Teresa of Calcutta, more commonly known as Mother Teresa? She was born in North Macedonia in 1910 and became a Catholic sister as a young adult. Mother Teresa eventually moved to India and founded a new order of sisters called the Missionaries of Charity in 1950. This religious order was established to "serve the poorest of the poor."



They went places and served people that no one else would. Mother Teresa understood that Jesus loves everyone and that there is God given dignity and worth in every single person. No matter how dirty, how sick, how forgotten a person was, Mother Teresa would visit them and bring them the love and hope of Jesus.

The meaning of the verse above: "The concern of the flesh is death, but the concern of the spirit is life and peace," was demonstrated by the life of Mother Teresa. She did not busy herself with pursuits of things that would not last. Instead, Mother Teresa was constantly aware of Jesus' love and desire for each and every person and the truth of eternity.

Mother Teresa experienced many hardships, but because of her faith and trust in God, she was also able to have hope and peace despite it all. We can ask Saint Teresa of Calcutta to pray for us and help us in our pursuit of what the Lord is calling us to do, and to help us keep our eyes on Heaven.



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Many people followed [Jesus],
and he cured them all,
but he warned them not to make him known.





Gospel Corner

Matthew
12:14-21



When God became flesh in the Person of Jesus Christ and walked on earth, he preached the truth and cured many people of their diseases, illnesses, and deformities. Jesus came to make people whole, spiritually and physically.

But when Jesus cured people of their illnesses, he often told them not tell anyone. Why wouldn't Jesus want other people to hear about all the good deeds that he was doing? Wouldn't this make him more and more famous and bring more people to him?



While the miracles Jesus performed were very significant and important for the people, the more important thing was his teaching about repentance and following God's commands. The spiritual healing was always more important than the physical, and Jesus wanted the people to primarily focus on their interior - having a clean heart - and not the exterior healings.

An important lesson for us is to examine our own interior. We are called to follow God's commands, and our interior disposition should be concerned first and foremost about God. When we are sick or hurt, it is good to ask God to help us - but more than a physical cure, we should first make sure our hearts are oriented toward God, we are sorry for any sins we committed, and we forgive others as God forgives us. When we have the correct priorities in life, we are sure to reach the goal of everlasting joy and happiness in Heaven one day with our loving Father.



Did you know?

GIFT of
FEAR
of the LORD



One of the 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit is Fear of the Lord. It is a special gift that helps us feel a deep sense of wonder, awe, and respect for God. It isn't being scared or terrified of God. Instead, it is a healthy and loving respect for God, recognizing how amazing and powerful He is.

What you can do

Read a book about a saint or about many saints this week. Be inspired by them to make sacrifices, have compassion, and to become the saint God is calling you to be!



About Me: Saint Edition



In the spaces below, fill out the form about a saint of your choice. You can choose from the list below or any other saint!

Name: _____

Birthplace: _____

Birthday: _____

Feast day: _____

Patron of: _____

Three things they are known for doing:

Ideas:

- Saint Sharbel
- Saint Rafka
- Blessed Estephan Douaihy
- Saint Maron
- Saint Ephrem