

Monday Quotes



Grain

“I’m late, I’m late for a very important date, no time to say hello. Goodbye, I’m late, I’m late, I’m late.” – Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, White Rabbit in *Alice in Wonderland*

Submitted by **Reverend Peter Heide, Baraboo, WI**

Field

“29 As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. 31 He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. 32 That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. 33 And the whole city was gathered around the door. 34 And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. 35 In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. 36 And Simon and his companions hunted for him. 37 When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." 38 He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also..." Mark 1:29-38

Thoughts by Reverend Peter Heide, Baraboo, WI (Reflection from 2018)

In the Gospel of Mark, there is this sense of not having enough time to get the job done. Everything seems to happen immediately, at once, suddenly. Having called Peter, Andrew, James, and John, and having liberated a man with an unclean spirit, Jesus literally raises up Peter’s mother-in-law into healthy living. As the disciples have immediately dropped everything to serve, so now Peter’s mother-in-law immediately rises to serve.

This leads to more healings of those who are sick or have unclean spirits. We see the number of followers increasing yet, thus far in the Gospel, only the unclean spirits are able to identify who this Jesus is. There is something new in Jesus’ teaching. It has authority to make whole that which is broken without hoop jumping.

When his disciples finally find him in the deserted wilderness place, they say, “Everyone is searching for you.” Yet in this wilderness place Jesus’ attention is not on where he has been but where he is going. Jesus walks with his disciples into places of potential and opportunity to create new communities where God’s good news can grow. Here Jesus reaches out to us and calls us to follow. Here new healthy relationships are being created and nurtured. Here Christ’s action and teaching lead to speaking out for the oppressed, to speaking in favor of a health plan that cares for all of the sick, to speaking against the unclean powers of our world and silencing them forever.

More than ever, this time is short. There doesn’t seem to be enough time to do what needs to be done. With the signature word of Mark, we need to act immediately.”

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Many blessings upon you,

Pastor Peter