



Day 37: Father

Jesus, Perfect Revelation of the Father

“Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.” John 14: 9

In a powerful moment in Saint John’s Gospel, Philip begs Jesus: “Lord, show us the Father, and we shall be satisfied.” And Jesus replied to him: “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father (John 14:8-9). Jesus was telling Philip that He, as the Son, reveals to us the Father. Revealing the Father’s heart is the perfection of Jesus’ life and mission. His whole person – face, eyes, smile, virtue, voice, personality, etc., revealed the love of His Father. Every action, from the smallest minute action to the climatic action of laying His life down on the Cross, revealed the Father’s unconditional love for the whole world. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit shared the perfect overflow of love from all eternity, and in the fullness of time Jesus is sent to the world to be a perfect revelation of that love in His very person. What delight must have welled up in His heart when He proclaimed to Philip, and now to all of us, “He who has seen me has seen the Father!”

Mary, Faithful to the Father

While Mary did not have a doctorate in theology, through the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit, she pondered things in her heart and was given a profound grace to receive the truth about Jesus her son. The angel Gabriel told her and St. Joseph that Jesus would be called the Son of the Most High, Emmanuel, and that He would save His people from their sins. Her son was Jesus, the Son of God, sent as Savior and Redeemer of the world. Countless times in the Gospel Jesus bears witness that He has come to do His Father’s will. Simply put, this sums up His divine mission: To reveal His Father’s presence in the world and to do His holy will. Mary lived her life profoundly present to these truths about her son, and her motherly heart always supported Him to be faithful to His heavenly Father, and thus be faithful to His life and mission.

St. Juan Diego and Us

You must reveal the heart of the Father. As Jesus’ whole life and mission was caught up in revealing the Heart of the Father, St. Juan Diego shared this same mission at the hermitage of Our Lady of Guadalupe. He was known for his humble love and generous service to all who came to visit Our Lady. He had a reputation for great holiness, and all

the pilgrims longed to follow and imitate his example of love for God and the holy Virgin. His sanctity was so well known that no miracle was required by the Church for his Beatification. He evangelized the people around him who held him as a model for their children and said that he was truly a Holy Man. Like Jesus, he revealed the Heart of the Father. While the love of a son, brother, and spouse are beautiful in themselves, the invitation to live and love like the Father is part of our deepest calling. Brother, the world needs to see and experience the love of God the Father. His love is strong, sacrificial, patient, and generous. This is how you are called to love. Your fatherhood is the most powerful and transformative gift that can be given to our world and Church today. Men must bear fruit and become fathers or else more and more souls will wander further from the heart of God. Do we love like the Father? Do our lives reveal His presence? Do not be afraid of your fatherhood!

Prayer

O Jesus, we adore You, we love You, and we thank You for the gift of Your presence. You are the beloved Son of the Father, who constantly reveals Your Father's heart to us. Increase our faith that we can truly believe that those who see You see the Father. We ask You now to hear this prayer.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of God and Mother of us, draw us close to your heart. Help us receive the truth, that like Jesus and St. Juan Diego, we too are called to reveal the Father's heart in the world. Please come and fill us with your love.

Amen.

After reading today's reflection, pray the Litany of Restoration of Sonship.

This reflection is an excerpt from the book *Sons in the Son* written by Fr. Innocent Montgomery, CFR, and Fr. Angelus Montgomery, CFR, and produced by the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council. This reflection is to be used for private devotional use only. For more information, please visit kofc.org/sons.