



## Day 4: Safe and Secure

### **Jesus, safe and secure in the Father's presence**

A fundamental human need that every son has is to be safe and secure in the presence of his father and mother. This means that all of his needs, both spiritual and human, will be taken care of and provided for. In the Sonship of Jesus, this was true in abundance. In the perfect love of the Father, Jesus is the beloved and chosen Son, seen and known to perfection. The truth of this reality allows Him to live in a deep safety and security before his Father, truly believing that He would take care of Him at every moment. This safety and security with His Father allowed Jesus to live in true freedom as a son, giving Him confidence to be Himself in all circumstances and to trust in the Father's plan for His life.

### **Mary, a safe and secure dwelling place**

Mothers have a particular gift of creating a sacred space of safety and security. For example, right after a child is born, he is placed in the arms of his mother and pressed upon her bosom. The mother's very presence, smell, breath, and heartbeat regulates the child and immediately he knows that he is safe and secure in her arms. Mary's gaze, voice, smile, and embrace were a constant reminder to Jesus that He was safe and secure. As a son, Jesus longed for this real intimacy with her. As sons in the Son, Jesus has given us his Mother so that her maternal gaze can be an anchor for us to begin to live the safety and security of the Father's love for us.

### **St. Juan Diego and Us**

You are safe and secure in the Father. It is easy to overlook that one of the main intentions of Our Lady of Guadalupe's message is not just for the construction of a physical place of worship but also the establishment of the Church in this land. Our Lady of Guadalupe asked that the Bishop would, "build my little sacred house that I ask of him." For the Indian Juan Diego, this request was logical because in his culture, the first building you would build in any new town would be the temple. However, it is also true that the experience and deeper conversion of Juan Diego is about the establishment of the temple of the Spirit within him! Archbishop Martinez tells us that Our Lady of Guadalupe asked for this construction, "Because she loves us and because love needs a silent and hidden nest where it can live and develop." Praise God that this temple is not simply referring to the Basilica in Mexico but is mystically pointing to the temple of our bodies, filled and illumined by the Holy Spirit. Juan Diego must have savored the sweetness of Mary's words. You

too are invited to ponder, to pray—and in this prayer, to enter into the secret room of your heart, the interior place where you are safe and secure before your Father. Hidden, silent, simple prayer, guided by and nourished by Mary is the key to abiding in the security and stronghold of God's love.

### **Prayer**

O Jesus, we adore You, we love You, and we thank You for the gift of Your presence. You are the beloved Son, safe and secure in the presence of Your Father. We long to experience the safety and security of a real relationship with Him. 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. You were a real Mother to St. Juan Diego, as your presence reminded him that he was safe and secure and because of this he could live his mission to the full. We say yes to your presence right now.

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](http://kofc.org/sons).