

Lenten Meditations Podcast Ep. 3 Transcript

Faith and Confidence in God (with Gabby Bibeau and Bro. Tom Redmond, SM)

00:10 - Gabby Bibeau

Welcome to the third episode of our Lenten meditation series. We are halfway through Lent, which reminds me of a quote from one of Adèle's letters to a friend. "We are well into the sacred 40 days, my dear friend. Are we more fervent and more purified? Let us be completely devoted to the glory of God." As we continue with our Lenten observances, we might be disappointed in ourselves for not living up to our Lenten promises. We may be tempted to dwell on our failures, but God calls us to be faithful and trust in his love for us. This is the theme of today's meditation: *Faith and Confidence in God*. Now we invite you to open your hearts to pray with God's word.

01:21 - Bro. Tom Redmond, SM

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke: "Jesus said to his disciples, 'Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens. They neither sow nor reap. They have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you, by worrying, add a single hour to your life? Consider the lilies. How they grow. They neither toil nor spin. Yet I tell you, even Solomon, in all his glory, was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothed the grass of the field which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will God clothe you!'" The Gospel of the Lord.

02:55 - Gabby Bibeau

The book *Virtues for Mission* by Fr. Joe Lackner elaborates on the virtue of confidence in God, which we heard about in this reading from Luke. He writes, "The ultimate way to move beyond the despondency of failure is by having confidence in God. This confidence is rooted in at least two elements: The experience of God as the one who keeps his word and the conviction that God has the power to meet our need. To feel the effect of this power, we have simply to admit our weaknesses in following Jesus, resist focusing energy on them. Let them go into the hands of God and remember God's promises. Because all of us experience failure and living out our commitment to God, unless we are able to accept that we fail and then, in turn, trust God, we will give up on the mission entrusted to us."

04:15 - Gabby Bibeau

Spend some time reflecting on the following questions: What are some of your weaknesses? Do you ever worry about failure?

[Soft music 04:26 - 05:25]

05:25 – Gabby Bibeau

How might your life be different if you were to hand over these weaknesses to God, trusting that he loves you and will work through your shortcomings and failures?

[Soft music 05:36 - 06:23]

06:23 – Gabby Bibeau

Imagine yourself handing these weaknesses over to God. Ask God for help to be more confident and less fearful.

[Soft music 06:33 - 07:32]

07:32 - Gabby Bibeau

Let us pray: God, you have called each of us by name to take up this Marianist banner. Every day, we are reminded that we are a people of varying talents, dispositions, points of view, and dreams. Grant us the grace each day to discover your power and presence in our midst so that as each of us has responded to your call, we may yet join as one body to proclaim your reign, to live out your word, and to be the people you have called us to be. We pray in the spirit of Mary, who held the mysteries of your life in her heart as she daily walked the journey, believing that the words spoken to her would be fulfilled. Amen.

08:32 - Gabby Bibeau

Join us in two weeks for our final Lenten meditation for Holy Week, which will be on the *Three O'Clock Prayer*. Thank you for praying with us.