



Who Is Your Presence?

A blind woman is begging in the street, she is passed by without a glance, a care or a concern. A man walks by and sees a person crying out for help, yet no one seems to hear her cry. The man gently picks her up and carries her to a nearby restaurant where they dine together in silence; afterwards he takes her to the hospital where she is examined and cared for with devoted attention. She is told that she will now be living in an assisted care facility where she will always be cared for and looked after. When she was asked about the man who fed her and brought her to the hospital, she said, I never asked his name for I knew that it was Jesus. When was the last time that you were mistaken for Christ?

As baptized Christians we are called to be the presence of Christ in this world, with our eyes, hands, feet, ears and mouth, and through our time, treasure and talent. Becoming the presence of Christ may not be the easiest thing to accomplish, in fact it takes a lifetime to perfect.

“Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks [with] compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours.” Teresa of Ávila

Nothing great ever starts out as great, it must be built up slowly and steadily. You cannot become a Saint overnight and you will never become a Saint if you never even try. To be the presence of Christ, we must start small and work in simple ways and through our faithfulness in these small ways, we will naturally grow to being Christ in massive ways.

But you, man of God, pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. Compete well for the faith. Lay hold of eternal life, to which you were called when you made the noble confession in the presence of many witnesses. 1 Timothy 6:11-12

Father in Heaven,

With all my soul I long to be Your presence in this world that is thirsty for Your touch. May I never let an opportunity or day go by to be mistaken for You. May I always seek to express the endless depths of Your love and mercy to all people in all places without distinction or hesitation. May this be my prayer, today, tomorrow and every day for all the days of my life.

AMEN