

Disciples and Mediators of the New Covenant

A PRAYER MEDITATION FROM *AMBASSADORS OF JESUS CHRIST*

“You act as mediators in their regard, God making use of you to teach them what is necessary for their entrance into new and everlasting life.” (Meditation No. 56.3)

FIRST MOVEMENT

1. **Take a few minutes to quiet yourself. Recall God’s active presence in the world and in your own life.**

“Behold, I am doing something new. Now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?” (Is 43:19)

2. **Offer yourself to God to do God’s work and to fulfill God’s wishes.**

“Here am I! Send me.” (Is 6:8)

SECOND MOVEMENT

3. **Contemplate the Mystery of God’s Love at Work in the World**

Read the following passages a few times slowly. What words or phrases especially catch your attention? Listen to what is being said. Contemplate Jesus, who invites us to be love’s messengers.

“A new commandment I give you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another.” (Jn 13:34-35)

“I say to you, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ... If you love those who love you, what credit is there in that? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be the children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.” (Lk 6:27-28, 32-36)

"The Lord God has given me a disciple's tongue, so that I may know how to reply to the weary. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord God has opened my ears. For my part, I made no resistance; neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me and my cheeks to those who tore at my beard. I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. For the Lord God helps me; therefore, I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; and I know that I shall not be shamed. My vindicator is near at hand." (Is 50:4-7)

4. Reflect on the Mystery of God's Love at Work in Your Own Life

Is your ministry motivated by an unconditional love of your students and a commitment to help procure fullness of life for them?

Do you give special help to those who are most in need of giving up some of the habits formed in the past and of conversion to a new life of love and forgiveness?

Are you patient, gentle, prudent, self-sacrificing and wholehearted in the exercise of your ministry?

Since by baptism you have "put on Christ," are you ready and willing to shoulder part of his cross in your daily life, not grudgingly, but with joy and conviction?

THIRD MOVEMENT

5. Resolve to Be More Open to the Work of the Spirit in and Through You Today

Take a few minutes and thank God for the small, but significant, role you play in the mediation of this new covenant of love.

What activities give meaning to your life, nourish your spiritually and sustain your commitment?

Where is the Spirit gifting and drawing you to sacrifice yourself today that others may have fuller life?

This prayer meditation is an excerpt from *Ambassadors of Jesus Christ: Prayer Meditations for Christian Educators* (1995) by Brother William Mann, FSC, Brother Henry Dissanayke, FSC, and Brother Isaias Tzegay, FSC. This book contains 35 meditations that invite one to enter into the three movements of Saint John Baptist de La Salle's *Method of Interior Prayer*.