

A True Liberator

A PRAYER MEDITATION FROM *AMBASSADORS OF JESUS CHRIST*

"The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the Good News to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, and to set the down trodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favor." (Is 61:1-2)

FIRST MOVEMENT

1. **Take a few minutes to quiet yourself and to call to mind that God is present with all of those who, in anyway, need to be set free from bondage.**

"You who are teachers have the responsibility to use every possible means to bring those under your guidance into that liberty of the children of God which Jesus Christ obtained by dying for us." (Meditation No. 203.2)

2. **Abandon yourself to God's providence so that he can give you the necessary graces both to understand his will and to do it.**

"I have heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall we send? Who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here I am.' I said, 'Send me.'" (Is 6:8)

SECOND MOVEMENT

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

Read the following Scripture passages a few times slowly. What words, lines or phrases attract your attention? Listen to what God is saying to you through the passage. Picture the scene in your mind. What is happening? Try to place yourself in the scene as God's instrument of liberation. See Jesus as the true liberator using you and sending you into the poverty and abandonment of the children of this world.

"You are set free from sin and bound to the service of God. Your gain will be sanctification and the end will be eternal life. For the wage paid by sin is death; the gift freely given by God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Rom 6:22-23)

"Whoever looks closely into the perfect law that sets people free, who keeps on paying attention to it, and does not simply listen and then forget it, but

puts it into practice, that person will be blessed by God in what is done." (Jm 1:25)

"There was the hope that creation itself would one day be set free from slavery to decay and would share the glorious freedom of the children of God." (Rom 8:21)

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

As Christ's instrument of liberation, to whom have you been sent as a liberator? Is it to the poor children confided to your care?

From what are you liberating them? What will be the gain of this liberation?

How do you liberate a world characterized, on the one hand, by hunger, poverty and war and, on the other hand, by materialism and by the rich becoming richer at the expense of the poor?

Have you anything more at heart than helping others find their happiness as children of God? "Let the children come to me for theirs is the kingdom of God." (Mt 19:14-15)

THIRD MOVEMENT

5. Resolve to Be More Open to the Spirit Who Works in and Through You Today

What are you willing to renounce and let go of in order to be a more perfect instrument of God's liberation of others?

Which part of your life have you been called to convert and to change in order to help set the children of this world free from bondage?

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*.