



## Lent Reflection for Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>

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Matthew 15:29-31

After Jesus had left that place, he passed along the Sea of Galilee, and he went up the mountain, where he sat down. Great crowds came to him, bringing with them the lame, the maimed, the blind, the mute, and many others. They put them at his feet, and he cured them, so that the crowd was amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the maimed whole, the lame walking, and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel.

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Today's reflection is by Ben Tyszka

The crowds came to Jesus.

They weren't trying to solve their problems themselves. They knew he would be the one to heal their sick and disabled and they were going to him in faith. The crowds brought their sick and disabled and 'put them at his feet'.

I see this meaning that the crowds had given up on curing their weak themselves. By placing them at Jesus feet, they were relying on him alone to be the cure and the solution.

While I don't live with a disabled family member, I do think about my own problems. Would I be able to lay these in front of Jesus and step back and rely on his cure? Or do I cling to a false sense of ownership and responsibility and continue to think that I can solve them on my own? Do

I have problems I can only vaguely sense, that are holding me back from being my best self in front of God? We are blind to what we cannot see.

My answers to these questions are mixed. Lately I have been more introspective and have been relying on my wife, friends, and colleagues for help. I also pray to God for help and guidance, somewhat regularly. But when it comes to perceiving my problems, I can only see what I can see.

So, what does it mean to bring your problems to God and to “lay them at his feet”? To me it means accepting that you are not in control. And that you are truly asking him for help. You don’t give up trying - or being accountable for your actions. Instead you admit that you do not have all the tools to solve every problem. And that the tools you do have, are gifts, and you thank God for these gifts. You ask God for wisdom in your decisions and choices.

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Ben Tyszka lives in Windsor Terrace down the street from Holy Apostles and started attending during COVID after having visited a few times over the years. My 3 boys keep me and my wife Laura very busy.

