

Fractured Joy

An Advent Examination of Conscience for Missionary Disciples

- 1) What is my mood? Am I joyful or am I bitter, angry, anxious, listless?
- 2) What am I doing? Am I caught up in a passion for the mission God has given me or am I distracted, darting from one thing to another? Have I lost focus? Has my zeal waned?
- 3) What are my intentions? Am I open, calmly anticipating Jesus filling all the empty places of my heart or am I closed, judgmental, clinging to my own righteousness rather than God's mercy?
- 3) Where is Jesus? Am I walking with him every day or have I stuffed him into some corner where I can manage his compassion and the urgency of his love - for everyone?

Lord Jesus,

I have let myself be deceived.
I have shunned your love in a thousand ways.

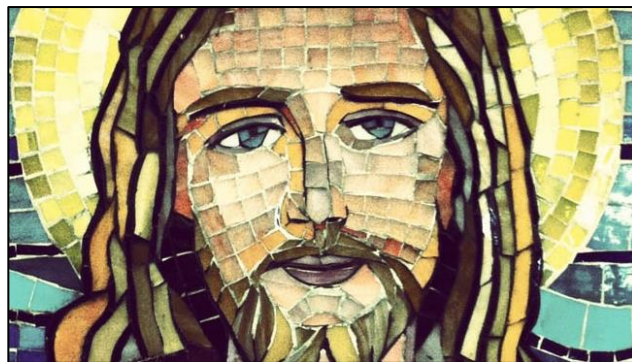
I come back to you.
I need you.
Save me once again.

Give me the grace to look in your eyes, accept
your mercy, and rest in your embrace,
breathing in your forgiveness and hearing anew your call to mission.

Renewed in your love, I will arise again to be light in the world and joy on the earth.

Glory to God in the Highest!
Peace to all who seek the Lord.
Come, let us adore him.

Amen.



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This examination of conscience was inspired by Pope Francis – his *Joy of the Gospel* – and is offered as a gift to the Church from the United States Catholic Mission Association. USCMA is a membership organization. All Missionary Disciples are encouraged to join – www.uscatholicmission.org. Feel free to call – 202-832-3112.