

Daily Meditation 11-25-22

A Preferential Option for the Young?

Good morning.

In today's meditation, we're bringing up the important topic of what I call a preferential option for the young. Are we engaged in preferential options for the young? Does this influence and find a home in our decision making about values, about budgets, about the future?

Tomorrow we'll be talking about how the choices to save the planet are preferential options for the young. And it's no small thing the young are the most vociferous protesters today about the future of the planet. After all, they will be here the longest; they will be raising children and grandchildren on this planet, or trying to.

But today, we bring up other topics that are pertinent to that same question. For example, what images of masculinity and what images of femininity are we putting out there as adults, as elders, who run our institutions, or used to run them?

The media, for example, and education, the way we're defining education -- is that a preferential option for the young? Is the media, that makes fast bucks for the adults on such themes as hatred and lies and projections, stirring up rancor and rage -- is that the work of adults? Is that good work of elders? Or is that the work of people with small hearts, small minds, seeking only to have fat wallets? Poisoning souls, including the soul of the nation, in order to make money, to add more power. Addictions to power -- is that masculinity? Or is that a reptilian brain out of control, where domination reigns, where patriarchy, which is built on control and domination, reigns and has taken over the soul.

Serious questions about what are the values of adults, those who are running our institutions including education, including religion, including media, including politics, including economics. How mature are the values, so-called values, that are being promulgated?

The same is true of the feminine side of the soul. The demonstrations going on now for months in Iran by the treatment of women, the bravery of women to stand up and of men as well to stand with them, to stand by them. This shows authentic masculinity at work, in the women too: the courage, the strength of their convictions, the willingness to sacrifice, go to jail even for the sake of the greater whole, which is where justice and compassion speak to.

Reminds me of the Civil Rights battles of 50 years ago to get voting rights, which are now being taken away in America by the political party. How many youngsters, how many teenagers went to jail so those bills of voting rights can be passed, so segregation would be melting after reigning for over a century?

There is great courage in the human heart. That is a virtue to be emulated, to be fanned. As Thomas Aquinas said, "compassion is the fire that Jesus came to set on the earth."

Blessed are all the compassionate ones fighting for justice.

This is a preferential option for the young and by the young and I hope by the elders and the adults, running our institutions, as well.

Thank you, we'll see you tomorrow.