



A weekly reflection by members
of the Precious Blood community

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For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. (Matthew 13:12)

Recently, I have come to realize and appreciate the importance of each of our individual talents. We are, of course, all unique. I always understood that people are different—sometimes very different. At times, I’ve seen those differences as obstacles, though: Someone doesn’t believe as I believe, or do as I think they should do—anything that causes me to have to take notice of something or someone that I’d rather not. I’d much rather things just run along smoothly. Even with abilities, I know I have valued the gifts of some people and dismissed those of others. What a mistake that has been.

Some talents stand out in big ways. I am in awe of anyone who has the courage to run toward danger to save a life or the researcher with the intelligence to find cures for diseases. The ability of engineers to design and construct elaborate structures and artists to create masterpiece works is an inspiration to me.

But I now see the importance of ALL gifts; not only the doctor who makes critical decisions about a patient’s care but also the aide who does the laundry or the volunteer who brings in the meal tray with a kind word or in respectful silence. It’s the simplest of abilities, those that can so easily go unnoticed that, when *used*, can be life-altering. Something as humble as the ability to sit quietly and listen to another person can change the whole course of that person’s life. Taking time to connect with someone on a genuine level can have implications far beyond that one moment. It is not an overstatement to say that the outcome might very well save a person’s life. No small talent.

I hope to remember what I’ve recently learned and always value the skills and abilities that reside in all people. They are gifts given very purposefully by the Creator, blessings that we can all use to bless one another. What a perfect design God’s creation is.

Audrey Jungermann is a Partner in Mission with the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood and recently concluded her service as Director of the Program. To learn more about Partners in Mission, [click here](#).

This weekly reflection is made available to all who are part of our Precious Blood family. Feel free to share it with others. Would you be willing to write a reflection? If so, please contact Vicky Otto at votto@pbspiritualityinstitute.org