



A weekly reflection by members of the Precious Blood Community

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“Speak Lord, for your servant is listening” (1 Samuel 3:10)

Have you ever had young Samuel’s experience of being awakened with the feeling that someone was calling you? Can you imagine Eli’s wonder and maybe annoyance with little Samuel awakening him not once but 3 times? I believe parents can relate especially when your children are sick and want to crawl in bed with you!

I love this scripture passage so much because it reminds me of our daily calls from God, maybe not as dramatic as Samuel’s, but nevertheless so real! We question, we need affirmation, we need our elders in order to say, “Speak Lord, I am listening”!

In this New Year, we are invited to pay attention to those calls that wake us up, to recommit ourselves to our mission of living out of a spirituality that calls us to the margins, to inclusivity, to accompanying those who feel unworthy or hopeless, to be a reconciling presence in this suffering/polarized world.

As I write this reflection, my thoughts go to the 50+ women at PBMR who will gather tomorrow at our Front Porch to support one another. Each has lost a son or daughter to gun violence. As they walk through this terrible tragedy, accompanying one another, they come to hear God’s call! However, they do weep, they pray, they do question, they do wish for a different story, but together through their brokenness, their tears and their sharing of stories, they come to be a strong community of women who know their mission!

As we begin this New Year, may we be attentive to whom or to where God calls us, encouraging one another in this very fractured world, to listen, to pray, to accompany, to weep, to unite our voices in saying with little Samuel, “Here I am.... Speak God, I am listening”!

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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