

July Newsletter

Friends,

I write in the middle of an end-of-June heat wave, as I recover (slowly) from a May 21 knee replacement. When I saw the doctor after the procedure and asked him how it went, he exclaimed, "Ah, a work of beauty!" It is good to have a doc that appreciates his work! The healing process is not the three-week quick fix I intended. So with the passage of time comes the reality of aging, enduring the suffering of shattered expectations, and knee pain as I try to get the knee to bend 120 degrees—probably at least a three-to-eight-week process.)

So naturally, I have selected a healing scripture story from the Acts of the Apostles. When I read this passage in a Loyola Press daily scripture quote, I laughed. Peter's healing admonition to Aeneas, a paralytic, was, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ cures you! Get up and make your bed." When I am feeling the pain, I need the "Get Up!" admonition to do the daily exercises.

For the kids and grandkids, home for summer vacation, I was reminded of the book by Admiral William H. McRaven, *Make Your Bed: Little Things That Can Change Your Life... and Maybe the World*. Making the bed is a good discipline to start the day!

This thought leads me to recommend a book on discipline, character, and values written in a style that should speak to the iPhone generation. The author is Frank Sonnenberg, and the title is *Become: Unleash the Power of Character and Be Proud of the Life You Choose*. It might be a good book to bring on vacation or to leave lying open where kids and young adults might sneak a peek. It might stimulate vocational conversations.

I write today on the summer solstice. Remember, our God is a summer God. God celebrates creation and we, as co-creators, should join in the dance and rejuvenate our lives. Enjoy the summer!

Carpe Diem!
Our Lady of the Way, Pray for us!

John Fontana



MISSION

The Mission of the Ignatian Business Chapters is to establish and lead a national and international network of business executives to explore their respective religious traditions in order to help the individual executives

- integrate faith, family, and professional life,
- develop a corporate culture that is reflective of their religious faith and values, and
- exercise a beneficial influence upon society at large.

The chapters, grounded in the Roman Catholic tradition, welcome believers who are open to and respectful of one another's religious traditions. They are committed to the conviction that ethics and values grow out of one's religious heritage.

SCRIPTURE READING:

Acts of the Apostles: 9:32-35. Peter visits Lydda

Now as Peter went here and there among all the believers, he came down also to the saints living in Lydda. There he found a man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden for eight years, for he was paralyzed. Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; get up and make your bed!" And immediately he got up. And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.

ARTICLE

["How the Inequality Around Us Shapes Our Perceptions of Morality"](#)



REFLECTION

Reflection Questions

Be attentive: While you were reading this article, where did your reflection go? To your own experience? To your reflections on your business or profession life? Or to the condition of our society?

Be intelligent: In what aspects of contemporary life are you concerned about the erosion of standards of values and morality? How has this trend impacted you, your work, and your family?

Be reasonable: Comment on this statement: "The loss of a sense of control is incredibly important in well-being." Where is your sense of well-being?

Be responsible: What were key insights that surfaced in today's discussion? Any food for further contemplation? Any action steps? What are the implications for you at work, in your community, and at home? Leverage the conversation for good!



CLOSING PRAYER

Personal Prayer of Pedro Arrupe, S.J.

Grant me, O Lord, to see everything now with new eyes;
to discern and test the spirits that help me read the signs of the times;
to relish the things that are yours, and to communicate them to others.
Give me the clarity of understanding that you gave Ignatius.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen!

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