**Meditation: The Three Glances of Christ**

(about 10 minutes)

PURPOSE:

* To awaken the participants to their personal responsibility to open themselves to Christ.
* To acquaint the participants with Jesus’ attitude towards them.
* To help participants understand the attitudes they present to Him.

CORE IDEAS:

* To help participants find themselves through three different persons Jesus encountered.
* To answer the question “What does Jesus see in me?”
* What is my response to Jesus?

INTRODUCTION:

1. The parable of the Prodigal Son or the Loving Father illustrates who God is and how He regards us.
2. We will look at three instances in which Jesus met others and how he responded to them.
3. We notice how they reacted to Him.

THE RICH YOUNG MAN: (Mark 10:17-22)

1. The man is living the “good life” and searching to do God’s will.
2. Jesus invited him to remove the one obstacle that prevented growth in his personal relationship with God.
3. The rich young man failed because he put his trust in something other than Jesus.
4. Out of his love for the young man Jesus let him go on his way.
5. Jesus gives us the strength to meet the challenges.
6. Is this your story? Do you feel trapped between your desire to live for the Lord and your attachment to material things?

JUDAS: (John 12:4-6)

1. We may fool others into believing we are devoted followers, but we cannot fool Jesus.
2. Jesus leaves the door open for us to return just as he did for Judas(see John 13:30)
3. In the beginning, Judas was enthusiastic to share Jesus ministry.
4. Although Judas abandoned Jesus, Jesus never abandoned Judas.
5. Has this been your story? Have you grown deaf to His call? Are you afraid to ask forgiveness, healing, and reconciliation?

PETER: (Mark 14:27-31; Luke 22:54-62; John 21:15-17)

1. Peter, a typical human being, was devoted to Jesus.
2. The problem for Peter was trusting too much in his own efforts to live the Christ-like life.
3. By Peter trusting in his own efforts, he experienced failure when he encountered a major challenge.
4. Peter did learn how to repent. He learned that Jesus understands our human failings and forgives us.
5. Peter learned through Jesus he could have the strength to overcome obstacles.
6. Peter discerned that he needed to love Jesus in order to serve Him.

CONCLUSION:

1. Is Jesus reaching out to you this Weekend?
2. What is your response as He speaks to your heart and you see His glance?
3. Are you afraid to encounter Him? Even though you are imperfect, are you willing to love Him and trust him?