

Dear Parents,

I hope all is well with you and your family.

Let's pray together this week for:

- For the church, as we spread the Word of God
- For world leaders that they work on helping people who are suffering
- For those who work in healing professions
- For our parish community that we remain open to the Holy Spirit in our life

The lesson plan this week is to complete the exercise in their duo tang and cover the chapter in their work book. If you have been keeping up with the weekly lessons, that is great. If you have fallen behind, don't worry... it is never too late to put in a bit more time to catch up. I will be collecting the duo tangs in the Spring.

The chapter to cover in their "Be My Disciples" book this week is:

- Level One – Chapter 19
- Level Two – Chapter 20
- Level Three – Chapter 19
- Level Four – Chapter 23
- Level Five – Chapter 22
- Level Six – Chapter 22

You will find below the duo tang masters that show different questions than those you received in your duo tang. Remember, the questions to be answered are those in the duo-tang you received at book pick-up, not the questions on the masters below. I encourage you to use the questions below to open a dialogue with your child.

The prayer service this week can be found at <https://worship.pastoral.center/day/2021-02-07>

Feel free to email me if you have any questions.

Have a Blessed week!

Beverley

*Beverley Wiltsie*

Director of Family Faith Education

St. Veronica's Parish

# It Feels Good to Go Back to Work

*This Week's Readings at Mass*

- ▶ Job 7:1-4, 6-7 - Job's first reply
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 - Paul's recompense
- ▶ Mark 1:29-39 - Cure of Peter's mother-in-law and other miracles

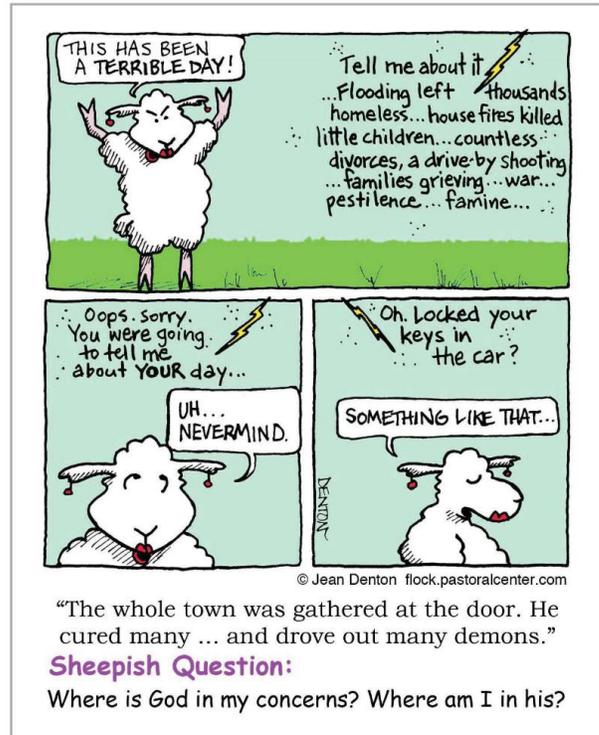
People sometimes take notice that as soon as Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law, she gets up and begins to wait on him and his friends, presumably including her own son-in-law. There she was sick in bed, and when she is healed, she had to go right back to work serving others? It doesn't quite seem fair to us now.

Yet there's another way to look at this scene. If you or anyone you know has been seriously or chronically sick, injured, or disabled, you may recognize the feeling of humility of not being able to help one's self and needing to rely on others for basic care. Being dependent on others can easily wound people's pride and make them question their self-worth. For some people, it leads to despair that they aren't "contributing" to the family or society and they may feel like they are a burden, even questioning why they are alive.

We don't know how long Simon's mother-in-law was sick or what exactly her illness was, but perhaps after she was healed she took great pride and satisfaction in being able to do something for others again.

Maybe she wasn't going about her service just because it was her duty as a woman in that culture to serve the men. It could have been her genuine, thankful response for what Jesus did for her. In other words, she may have been happy to go back to work.

The next morning, after all Jesus' healing work with so many who were sick or possessed by demons, he must have been exhausted, but he still gets up early to



go off by himself to pray. His time alone might have been short-lived because the apostles found him and they headed off to other villages to continue his work.

## Questions of the Week

- 1 Have you had the experience of being sick or injured and having to rely on others to do things for you that you wish you could do for yourself? What is it like?
- 2 Jesus gives us a great example of self-care in this passage when he goes away by himself to pray after a particularly busy day. When you find yourself especially busy or stressed, what do you do—or what would you like to do—to take care of yourself and get re-connected with God's strength?

