

LEADERSHIP JOURNAL - STORY



I ask for what I desire as we begin this topic



I pray that my entire being become open to God's grace



I imagine these texts being addressed to me, and note my response

Grace: To find the inspiration to put into writing my deepest desires and emotions

Two inter-related passages from the Diary may be quoted: they illustrate admirably the perception of a false consolation:

February 18: After mass I quietened down, comparing my own worth with the wisdom and greatness of God. I continued for some hours until the thought came to me that I should not trouble to say more masses - I felt angry with the blessed Trinity; I had no desire to prolong the deliberation into the future...

February 20: Later I felt strengthened in what I had done by the knowledge that the earlier spirit had been evil, the one that had wanted to make me have doubts and feel anger with the blessed Trinity...

The Spiritual Diary of Ignatius of Loyola - Fr. Joseph Munitiz SJ

It is clear that the Spiritual Diary is the record of such a time of 'discernment', with the 'consolations and desolations' (feelings of peace and joy as opposed to those of tension and unhappiness) duly noted: a descriptive title would be 'A Discernment Logbook'. It is an exceptional document in the fullness and in the sensitivity of its entries, and must be one of the finest accounts in the world's spiritual writings of one process of discernment.

Saint Ignatius of Loyola Personal Writings - Fr. Joseph Munitiz SJ and Fr. Philip Endean

When he takes the throne of his kingdom, he is to write for himself on a scroll a copy of this law, taken from that of the priests, who are Levites. It is to be with him, and he is to read it all the days of his life so that he may learn to revere the LORD his God and follow carefully all the words of this law and these decrees and not consider himself better than his brothers and turn from the law to the right or to the left. Then he and his descendants will reign a long time over his kingdom in Israel

Deuteronomy 17:18-20

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

When I sit down to write how many times do I write about feelings and movements? Do I understand the value of writing about these rather than just technical things?