

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

April 28, 2013
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Gospel Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

When Judas had left them, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and God will glorify him at once. My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

ST. MATTHEW



ST. MARK



Spiritual Reflection:

Looking again at Fulton Sheen's book: *Our Grounds for Hope: Enduring Words of Comfort and Assurance*: "It was not when the Apostles saw Christ in the transient glory of the Transfiguration but in the ignominy of a tortured man on the Cross that they were closest to their victory. Our Divine Lord Himself, speaking of wars, rumors of war, earthquakes and distress of nations, making the forecast of these calamities the very motive of hope: "But when these things begin to come to pass, look up and lift your heads because your redemption is at hand" (Luke 21:28)... The reason moments of catastrophe may be the eves of spiritual victory is because it is in those moments of defeat that man's pride is most humbled and his soul thus prepared for the help of God." I know that I love others more when I am humble and not filled with pride.

Spiritual Questions:

1. How did Jesus' death glorify him?
2. How can admitting our sinfulness bring us closer to God's glory?
3. Why does pride make it hard to love?
4. Can you name a spiritual victory (either yours or one of the saints)?
5. How can God humble you?



SAINT
JOHN



2013