

“Jesus fully realized all that was going to happen to him, so he stepped forward to meet them. “Who are you looking for?” he asked.” John 18:4 NLT

[lectio] // JOHN 18:1-27

listen to the text by reading out loud slowly and repeat up to 3x if desired

[meditatio]

reflect on – what word, words, phrase, or sentence speaks to you from the text, then write them down

No matter what story, what crisis I read about, Jesus is always fully aware and engaged i. what was going on. He knew how to read a crowd, a single individual, even a tense situation. Some may have been spirit insight as to what was going to happen. Maybe he received updates during his private time with God. Maybe he spent most of his 30 years listening and observing actions and behaviors of those around him. I don't believe Jesus accessed any more or less than we can because he is God. He chose to be fully human in his experiences of this world, accessing only the gifts of the Spirit of God that came upon him at baptism. No matter how one believes that Jesus “read” the circumstances, one thing is clear: Jesus stepped forward not back!

[oratio]

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

I also want to read a crowd, an individual and a situation with eyes of wisdom and engagement. Even in the middle of conflict or tension, celebration or joy - I want to be able to step forward to meet whatever is happening. Step forward in awkwardness, fear, stress, uncertainty and inadequacy! I'll settle for stand, but I'd rather step.

[contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root