

## Daily Devotion For September 4, 2021

And He (Jesus) came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as was His custom, He went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and He stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to Him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place ... And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing" (Luke 4:16-17, 21).

It is exciting to see that Mina Harigae from the Monterey Peninsula is playing in the LPGA Solheim Cup this weekend in Toledo, Ohio. I have often eaten at Takaya's in Pacific Grove, the Japanese restaurant that her parents own. Mina is our hometown favorite in this world-wide golf competition between Europe and the United States.

In Luke 4 we read that Jesus had returned to his hometown of Nazareth where he entered into the sanctuary as was his custom. He was invited to open up the scriptures and then he began to preach.

After preaching, the religious leaders began to criticize Jesus. They didn't like what Jesus was saying. They didn't like that Jesus was claiming to be equal to God.

Let me ask this question, do you respect the bible? That's kind of an insulting question? Not too many people would say no, especially people in the church. As we look at Jesus, he certainly respected the Scriptures. The people of Nazareth had no problem listening to Jesus read about helping the oppressed and setting captives free. It reminded them how much God cared about them. But there was a problem when Jesus turned to other passages of the Bible that they didn't like.

**Thought For Today:** What do you do when you find a part of the Bible that is hard for you to understand or accept? There are many passages that are hard and challenging for us to accept and live out because we don't agree with. Remember, God's call to us is to live out the entire Word of God and not just the verses we like or agree with.

**Today's Prayer Focus:** Pray that the Holy Spirit will help you treasure the whole Bible and grow from it. Pray for those who have been affected by the aftermath of hurricane Ida. Deo Volente.