Daily Devotion For December 16, 2022

<sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10

Two nights ago I was talking with Dr. Mary Ichiuji who shared with me that her daughter Sarah had her car stolen outside of her new residence in Oakland. Turn on the news and we see a rise in "smash and grab" robberies and it seems as though people are getting bolder and bolder. According to the 2022 National Retail Federation, 8 out of 10 business reported an increase in violence and aggression in the past year.

The eighth of the ten commandments says, "You shall not steal" (Exodus 20:15), yet theft has become so common that we don't even notice that gas station attendants in many large cities sit behind a bulletproof glass where security cameras monitor every move both indoors and out.

In John 10:10, Jesus said that there is also a thief who seeks to steal and rob us. This thief's name is Satan. Satan seeks to rob us of our joy, happiness, security, and peace. But in this season of Advent, we also remember that Jesus came to give us life, and have it to the full. True joy, happiness, security and peace can be found in the person of Jesus Christ.

**Thought For Today:** Are you letting Satan rob you of your joy, happiness, security and peace? Take time to thank God that he sent us his son Jesus at Christmas time to give us an abundant and full life. Claim that today!

**Today's Prayer Focus:** Pray for Sarah that in the midst of her troubles that she would know the help that comes from Christ. Deo Volente.