

## Scripture Reflection This Week Mark 9: 43-47



Reflecting on this week's Gospel, where Jesus advises cutting off one's hand or foot if it causes sin and plucking out one's eye if it leads to wrongdoing, can be quite confronting. However, the message conveyed through these literary metaphors is one of radical detachment from sin and a call to eliminate whatever leads us astray from God rather than literal dismemberment. The various things Christ speaks of can be anything in our lives, from our intimate friends to the type of TV shows we watch. Christ calls us to turn away from the negative habits we have fostered and replace them with things that positively affect our lives and the world. Instead of complaining about the trash along the side of the road, we can take a trash bag and pick it up. Instead of yelling at our neighbor for their unkept yard, we could lend them a hand in cutting the grass. The Lord challenges us to deeply evaluate the relationships and influences in our lives, encouraging us to prioritize our spiritual well-being above all else