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## Food for Thought

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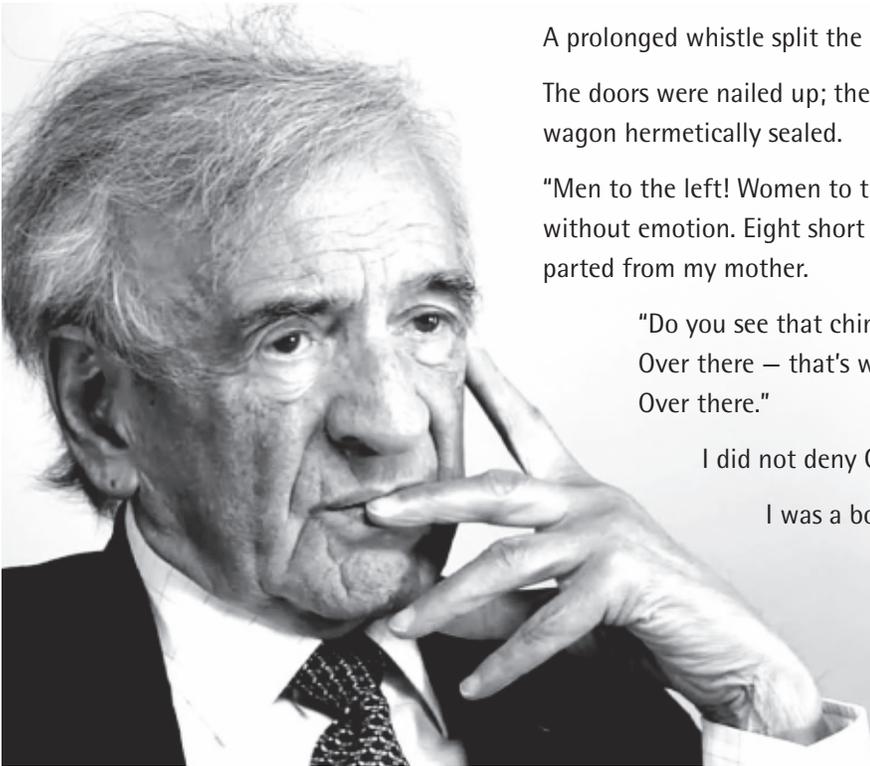
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# Food for Thought



A prolonged whistle split the air. The wheels began to grind. We were on our way. The doors were nailed up; the way back was finally cut off. The world was a cattle wagon hermetically sealed.

"Men to the left! Women to the right!" Eight words spoken quietly, indifferently, without emotion. Eight short simple words. Yet that was the moment when I parted from my mother.

"Do you see that chimney over there? See it? Do you see those flames? Over there – that's where you're going to be taken. That's your grave. Over there."

I did not deny God's existence, but I doubted his absolute justice.

I was a body. Perhaps less than that even: a starved stomach.

Where is He? Here He is – He is hanging there on this gallows.

*Elie Wiesel  
Holocaust Survivor*

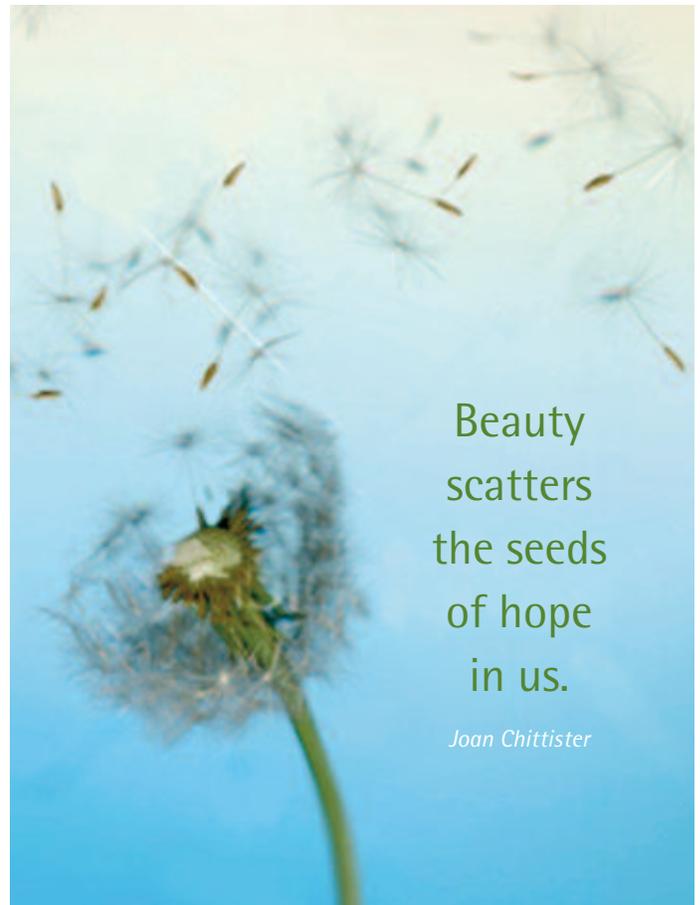
If we look at the gospels,  
Jesus doesn't ask the disciples  
to be theologically literate,  
or to understand and accept everything.  
**He asks them to copy him.**

*David Wells*

Many women share pastoral responsibilities with priests; guide people, families and groups; offer new contributions to theological reflection. But we need to create still broader opportunities for a more incisive female presence in the Church.

A woman, Mary, is more important than the bishops – what does this entail with regard to the possible role of women in decision-making in different areas of the church's life?

*Pope Francis*



Beauty  
scatters  
the seeds  
of hope  
in us.

*Joan Chittister*