

JULY 8, 2021
Thursday of the 14th Week in Ordinary Time
Matthew 10: 7-15

“GO AND PROCLAIM.”

Sometimes we do not know what is the plan of God for us. We sometimes question Him and can not understand why He allows things to happen. In our First Reading, it was a mixed emotion for Joseph to see his brothers. Remember that Joseph was sold by his brothers to get rid of him but now Joseph was the one who saved them from hunger and famine. Joseph said to his brothers: “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life.”¹ God has its own plan for us, we just need to trust Him even if it is difficult to understand at that moment. In our Responsorial Psalm, it reminds us we always need to be grateful for all things that happened to us: ‘Remember the marvels the Lord has done.’

While in our gospel, Jesus gave instructions to His disciples: to proclaim that the kingdom of heaven has come near, cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons, give without payment, travel light and bring peace to every house and town you enter. This was given to them and now to every one of us. We are called to proclaim the supremacy and lordship of God by our words, actions and lifestyle. We are called to bring healing into people’s lives by raising them not literally from the dead but who are virtually dead, though physically alive, and need to be taken back to a wholly human life. Also, lepers in our societies today not physically sick but who are marginalised and pushed out to the edges, people who need to be reintegrated. Those who are not literally possessed by the evil spirits but controlled by worldly demons such as alcohol and drugs, those who are captured by materialism, consumerism, hedonism and sexism of our time. They also need to be liberated through our help, concern, compassion and prayer. My brothers and sisters, we have a lot of work to do, each one of us in our own little way according to our talents, time, gifts and life situation. So, like the disciples, let us do our part to bring Christ to all.

¹ Genesis 45: 4-5 Holy Bible NRSVCE Canadian Bible Society