

March 8, 2017

Jonah 3:1-10; Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Luke 11:29-32

There have been many mornings lately when I wake up and wonder, “Is anyone paying attention to the good that others do for the world?” With news cycles dominated by stories of evil-doing and social media posts showcasing the hatred and vitriol that sometimes dwells in others, I question if anyone is *really* paying attention. Where are the unsung heroes of God’s goodness and mercy? What kinds of simple, loving signs are they putting out in the world for us to notice?

In today’s readings, we learn quickly that we have nothing to fear; such good people and their signs are all around us. In the Old Testament passage, God called the prophet Jonah to go to Ninevah to preach to the people a challenging message: repent your evil ways or be destroyed. The people responded quickly and changed for the good. Even the powerful king was receptive to Jonah’s simple yet powerful message. In Luke’s Gospel, Jesus tells us that despite the evil that exists in the world, He will always be a permanent sign of goodness and salvation to each of us everyday. “...because at the preaching of Jonah, they repented, and there is something greater than Jonah here” (verse 32).

Reflection Questions:

What signs are we given on a daily basis to “repent and come back to God”? Do we clearly see them, or simply ignore them?

How can we be a sign of God’s love and forgiveness to others, just like Jonah was to the Ninevites?

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