

March 12, 2017

Genesis 12: 1- 4a, Psalm 33, 2 Timothy 1: 8b-10, Matthew 17:1-9

During Mass the other day with our school kids, we sang together the hymn “God has Chosen Me.” I just loved hearing the sweet, innocent little voices ringing out that God has chosen them to bring good news into the world.

It made me think of today’s readings where we hear how God has chosen Abram to leave his familiar, comfortable homeland for a land that God tells him, “I will show you”. Abram listened and went as directed. We hear in the second reading from Paul to Timothy how sharing the good news will bring hardship however God will give him the strength to endure. Then in our Gospel, as we hear on all second Sundays of Lent, the mystery of the Transfiguration, where Peter, James and John travel up the mountain top to witness Jesus’ in his glory and hear the words, “This is my Son with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”

In our readings, we hear how Abram, Timothy, Peter, James and John are called to listen and to trust in God working through them. God works through these chosen ones and he continues to work through you – his chosen one. God chose to create you with all your unique quirks and talents. Like Abram, he may be calling you to leave your homeland, your comfort zone. He may be calling you to spread the Gospel as a priest, religious, deacon, director of religious education, administrator, teacher or catechist. He may be calling you to help in your parish in the upkeep of the grounds/buildings or administration. Whatever the ministry may be, God is calling you because you are his chosen one.

How do we know what God is calling us to do? We need to make some quiet time in prayer and adoration so we can hear the voice of God at work within us. Lent is the perfect time to go to our own desert of our hearts to be present to our Lord – especially through prayer, almsgiving and fasting. As we enter into this Second week of Lent, let us open our ears and hearts to hear what God is calling us to do in building his kingdom here on earth.

God has chosen you!

Reflection questions:

What may be holding you back from listening and answering God’s personal invitation and call to you?

How can you use the gifts and talents God has blessed you with in building his kingdom here on earth? In your parish and community?

*Lenten reflection by Deacon Dennis Guernsey, Nativity of Our Savior Parish*