



**Fourteenth Sunday Ordinary Time – Year C**

Isaiah 66: 10-14 Galatians 6: 14-14 Luke 10: 1-12,17-20

In today's gospel Luke tells of the practical work of a disciple. The twelve had already been sent, now Jesus sends the second wave into the fields ripe for harvest. The number seventy, connects us with the Moses story and the seventy elders chosen to assist Moses in his ministry.

The disciples are sent in pairs to the towns and villages that Jesus intends to visit.

Jesus acts like an anxious parent. He gives the disciples some clear instructions about their behaviour. You are going on a difficult mission so be careful. Don't burden yourself with a lot of baggage, otherwise it will become the focus of your attention. Be careful whom you speak to, not all will be welcoming. If the greeting of "Peace" is returned you can stay with the family. Don't be embarrassed to accept hospitality, it is God who is being welcomed. On the other hand don't flit from place to place. If you find no welcome in a community move on. The mission of the disciple is to heal which must be done without pressure.

The role of the disciple is to bring about a new vision of the world built upon right relationships.

Baptism is our sending out. At the end of each Eucharist we are reminded of our commissioning. If asked are we able to describe what it is that we do?

Yes. In one word we are to create and promote Unity. God desires that all humankind live, love and act in harmonious relationships.

Paul says, "Be dressed as Christ".

Paul means that we are to be recognised as Christ. A big ask, but one that Paul believes is the essence of discipleship. Before we plead the impossibility of the task we need to recall others words of Paul. You, when united, make one body. This means we all bring something to the whole task. This means identifying and using our special gifts to bring about unity.

If you are a comforter bring healing.

If you are a peacemaker bring reconciliation.

If you are a scholar bring learning.

If you are an initiator get things moving.

If you are a planner provide the maps.

If you are hospitable make the stranger welcome.

If you are an elder bring your wisdom.

Each gift will bring a special flavour to the body of Christ as God heals the world.

This is our vision. As a community we need to get together to determine local needs. We have to get passed the talk and on to the practical. It also means that there will be successes and some ideas mightn't work very well but everything we do we bring us a little closer to our goal of a world where all are loved, all are free, all live life to the full.

The gospel passage ends with the return of the disciples. They are excited and flushed with success. Each will have stories to tell which give hope and encouragement to all.

Jesus blesses them by saying that their effort will always be remembered because they are written in the heavens.

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