

Christ Our Hope Catholic Church

Faith in Laity Corner



Monday, May 06, 2019

Reading: Acts 5:27-32, 40-41; Jn. 21:1-19

3rd Week of Easter

Finding Jesus

As we enter the 3rd week of Easter, the reality of what the resurrection of Jesus would come to mean for His followers was to become real and it became a difficult reality. It is easy in our tumultuous times hard to find Jesus. Yes, Jesus is around us, finding Him in the midst of all that is happening in our homes, in our church, in our communities and in our country is the challenge. Jesus' followers were just trying to continue to share what they had seen and heard Him say.

"We gave you strict orders to stop teaching in that name." (Acts 5:28)

There is the fact that strange things are happening around the followers of Jesus, miracles, healings and people are moved by the words and stories they are hearing.

"Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and want to bring this man's blood upon us." (Acts 5:28)

The response of all followers, even us today should be to all who asked questions.

"We must obey God rather than men." (Acts 5:29).

How do we in our times follow this to the letter? Do you really want to follow Jesus or do you want to pick and choose what you want to follow? Can we stand before the crowd today and say without tremor that:

*"The God of our ancestors raised Jesus,
though you had him killed by hanging him on a tree.*

God exalted him at His right hand as leader and

Savior to grant Israel repentance and forgiveness of sins.” (Acts 5:30-31)

Are you convinced of the Resurrection of Jesus, are you witnesses to this fact or are you one of His followers who hide in the darkness of night or in the shadows and is soft of speech, when the name of Jesus has to enter our mouth? Have you asked the Holy Spirit to put words in and to give you the courage to speak out in His Name? This is what we all should be able to do.

*“We are witnesses of these things, as is the Holy Spirit
that God has given to those who obey him.” (Acts 5:31)*

The Gospel reading from John retells the story of how the Apostles wasted a whole night fishing and disappointingly caught nothing.

*“So they went out and got into the boat,
but that night they caught nothing.” (Jn. 21:3)*

How often have we been seeking God and not able to find Him in our lives? We finally, let go all our fears and cast ourselves at His feet; then, Jesus appeared and put everything in place. We do not have to ask what is happening, or how could this happen, we know...

“It is the Lord.” (Jn. 21:7)

At times there is the notion that we have to search for Jesus in faraway places and in extraordinary things. No, we find Jesus in the simple, in ordinary tasks and actions in our lives.... Most of Jesus' early disciples were *rough and tumble* fishermen. They found Jesus in casting their nets and He directed them. We too can find Jesus in the ordinary things in our lives and the actions of the people around us. Let us seek Him, wherever we are... Finding Jesus, is a matter of us listening to our inner voice and obeying His call.

Let us remember in our prayers those who have died by violence among our young people, our families and our elderly.

*Faith in Laity Corner is a weekly sharing of Holy Week readings written by Brenda Chee Wah,
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Your remarks, questions and comments can be emailed to faithinlaity@gmail.com

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Weekly readings taken from USCCB