

FR. TK. REFLECTIONS 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY YEAR A 2020

PETER: The *COWARD* , *BRAVE* , *ROCK-LIKE*, *JELLY-LIKE*

Today I would like to reflect on a very familiar character in the Gospels, PETER. We can learn from Peter, how to strengthen our relationship with Christ.

We see Peter's

UPS and DOWNS

WEAKNESS and STRENGTH

GOOD and BAD.

We have these same characteristics in our relationship with Christ.

We have weaknesses, denying Christ many situations

We all doubt him at times.

The bottom line is, like Peter, Christ will always *FORGIVE US*.

He will always *HELP US go FORWARD again*.

*Peter is a SAINT but he is also human.*

*He is so human and practical in his ways.*

At times He is *JELLY-LIKE*.

He is a *COWARD*.

He is *BRAVE*.

HE IS "THE ROCK."

In spite of all this, Christ established his church on PETER, A *HUMAN BEING*, not AN ANGEL.

He established His church on *EARTH not in HEAVEN*.

*He is further establishing his church on YOU and ME as Human beings*

*He is telling US," COME TO ME JUST AS YOU ARE."*

*What a wonderful master we have .*

Christ dealt with Peter in many different situations.

He had a lot of *PATIENCE WITH HIM*.

He helped him grow to be the leader he wanted to Feed HIS flock.

The growth was not instant but very *GRADUAL* and sometimes *PAINFUL*.

HE was *CALLED*. Christ had seen his *POTENTIAL*. We all need one to *BELIEVE IN US* and help us cultivate *OUR POTENTIAL*.

Peter was not sure he deserved the call till the *GREAT CATCH*. "*DEPART FROM ME.*" *Jesus CHALLENGED HIM TO REACH OUT and TO GO FORWARD.*

*If we want to grow we need CHALLENGING MOMENT'S, DEMANDS made of us.*

*Then we can be PRODUCTIVE.*

CHRIST INVOLVED PETER in His work ,He made him his partner, he was given RESPONSIBILITY where he had to be ACCOUNTABLE.

Christ asked him to DECLARE HIS STAND and LOYALTY. WILL YOU ALSO GO.

Where do we stand with the Gospel in this violent and hostile society.

We need to declare Christ, " YOU ARE THE CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD."

"WHERE ELSE DO WE GO" " YOU HAVE THE WORDS OF EVERLASTING LIFE."

Christ CORRECTED him, " PUT YOUR SWORD BACK." We need to correct and lead.

Jesus gave him a good telling off, " GET BEHIND ME SATAN."

He CONFRONTED HIM with FAILURE, " CAN'T YOU WATCH WITH ME FOR EVEN AN HOUR." Don't we all need support and a shoulder to lean on in the dark hours of our lives. Like Christ?

In all these moments Christ allowed Peter space to grow by forgiving and giving him another chance.

We all need someone to understand us despite our weakness and bear with us.

Christ doesn't RUIN our chances to grow.

He loves us as he loved Peter.

He is telling us FEED MY FLOCK.

He wants to establish his Church in YOU and ME.

HE WANTS THE "ROCK" IN US TODAY TO CONTINUE HIS MISSION.

WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE?