

FR.TK.REFLECTIONS 15th SUNDAY YEAR -B-2024:

INSTRUMENTS OF THE GOSPEL.

Today's first reading and the gospel are calling us to be instruments of the gospel in our current challenging world. We are called not only to be **listeners but also to be participants, keeping and spreading the faith to others.**

Prophet Amos in the first reading (Amos 7:12-15) was nowhere near the lineage of the prophets by any chance but was **called by God** from being a **shepherd and a sycamore tree dresser** to be a prophet and warn the people of Israel on the impending destruction of their kingdom unless they **reformed (repentance)**. This was not well received at all. Despite the challenges he faced Amos became one of the **great champion of social justice and delivered the message well**. The same applies to the apostles, coming from the more background of being **fishermen**. This shows the fact that God call people, regardless of their **background, culture, language, color or political affiliation** what he is interested in is **our potentialities and our willingness to do His will**. We are all called to the mission as followers of Christ. What is our response!

We don't have to have degree in philosophy, theology, spirituality, or Biblical studies to be **partners in this mission**, what we need to have is simple **faith, care, concern, generosity and love**. We are all called according to the talents he has given us, how do we give back to the community in different ministries in the church like **parenting, singing, preaching, serving at the altar, Eucharistic ministers, ushering, teaching, counseling**, we are all called to deliver the gospel to the ends of the world through these ministries. How are we

doing it in our present day society? In today's gospel, the apostles answered the call and were given **power to heal and authority to confront the evil spirit by teaching repentance**. They were given rules of the road of the spiritual journey. There are three instructions in this gospel, **the walking stick**, no traveling bags, not even money, the basic call here is to **trust in God and lean on his providence and he will give us the direction as he will lead us with that supporting stick**. He sent them two by two, this implied **the communal factor of the mission to support one another, the team work. It is not good for a man to be alone!** The third instruction was **shaking the dust** if they don't accept you **MOVE ON don't be paralyzed by failure or discouragement** no one can have 100% success, let's not let the dust of gossip, discouragement, hatred make us sick and immobilise our effort, **move on**.

Jesus **called the apostle, instructed them and then sent them** the same thing is doing to you and me this Sunday, he is **trusting and entrusting the church in us despite of our human limitations and weakness, he doesn't count so much on our success but rather on our believe, trust and potentiality**. He wants our **involvement**, and **participation** regardless of **age, talents or circumstances**. He is telling us today, he has no **hands, eyes, feet, ears but ours are we going to give him them totally as his instruments to reach the world?**

Our prayer this Sunday and always then should be that of St. Francis of Assisi

Lord make me an instrument of your healing power.

***Where there is hatred,let me sow love,where there is injury,pardon,where there doubt
faith,where there is darkness,light,where there despair hope and where there is
sadness,joy.;WE ARE ALL CALLED TO BE INSTRUMENTS,THIS IS OUR DUTY AND
RESPONSIBILITY IN THE WORLD.***