

10th Sunday Ordinary Time A

Did you ever hear the expression “Actions speak louder than words”?

Welcome to today’s readings

- Hosea – prophet told to marry a prostitute to show God’s relationship to Israel
 - she’d run off & prophet would go find her and bring her back
 - over & over
 - YET – She’d say she loved him, but sooner or later – off she’d go
 - Just like Israel – Just like us – **and God says enough – Live your love!**
- Reading in two parts – 1st is Israel’s ritualistic prayer in sanctuary
- Second is God’s response “*It is love that I desire, not sacrifices*”.
- Our relationship is internal – not just words we say here – but how we live.

God is still saying the same thing to us today

Is your faith real? Prove It

If you were arrested for being Xian would there be enough evidence to convict you?

- Today’s Gospel is the calling of Matt
 - Mt is the least likely to be called as one of the 12
 - Not just any tax collector – In Jericho – crossroads of commerce - TALENTED
 - Talent is NOT why he was called
 - Called because of his confidence in Jesus
 - *Matt knew who Jesus was, this was after the Sermon on the Mt., Miracles:*
 - Jesus calls Matt -
 - Matt leaves everything (*Actions speak louder than words*)
 - Next Scene - Jesus is in his house, eating with him and his friends.
 - (Matt brought him home, introduced him to his friends and family)
 - Have we introduced our friends to Jesus? Co-workers
 - (*Actions speak louder than words*)
 - Matt knew real deal when he saw it – NOT judgment of Pharisee
 - NOT Hosea’s religion w/o relationship
 - First condition of discipleship is NOT belief in what we can do for God
 - First condition of discipleship is what we believe God can do THROUGH us.
 - *Matt spent the rest of his life telling people about Jesus – forgiveness - salvation*
 - Jesus says “I have not come for the righteous, but for sinners”
 - HE HAS COME FOR US
 - Just as he met Matthew right where he was – he meets us
 - SALVATION COMES THROUGH FORGIVENESS OF SIN (3x)
- We have victory through God’s relationship with us NOT VICE VERSA
- Jesus died, Jesus rose, Jesus is Son of God, not me – BUT HE CALLS ME