

Second Hand Preacher

5th Sunday Ordinary Time

February 7, 2016

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Scripture is so important to the Christian. The Word of God shapes what we believe about morality and spirituality. We rely on the four Gospels and we are heavily influenced by the letters of St. Paul in order to try and capture the mystery of Jesus. Our love for the Word of God should cause us to want to immerse ourselves in its power daily. Read the daily mass readings. Read the Sunday readings more than once. The Gospels show how those closest to Jesus followed him. This is how they were connected by following the Risen Christ after having that personal encounter with him.

Some of the disciples were the 12 original apostles and Matthias who was picked by drawing lots to take the place of Judas. There were other Apostles who had grown in their faith and became devoted leaders. St Paul was a witness of Jesus as well, claiming that Apostle title as well. He says he was abnormally born, but he had an encounter with Jesus right on the road to Damascus. This encounter was so powerful that it left him temporarily blind. When Jesus, the Apostles, and the disciples speak of scripture, they mean the Old Testament. The Old Testament is fulfilled by the Paschal Mystery of Jesus. His passion, death, and resurrection give the world hope. These scriptures are the bed rock of our faith.

In modern times, there are those who follow scripture and there are those who live the Kerigma that is the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Those who are the closest we still refer to as Apostles. They live an apostolic life that share the Gospel with all they encounter. The light of Christ shines through them. The influence of St. Paul runs deep within them. All are called to be disciples with intention. Our intention should be to live the Paschal Mystery in our lives in order that we may witness to the love of Jesus.