

Second Hand Preacher 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8 13 17

Romans 9:1-5

Seeking the truth is always a noble practice. They say the truth will set you free. How often do we see careless times we stray from the truth grow into lies that may hurt others or us. The Christian should live a life of integrity as to build virtue. This can be done by people of all ages. Truth will always win out in the end. If one does live a lie, the lie will betray them.

St. Paul promotes the truth to the Christians in Rome. Paul's truth is Jesus. He came for the Israelites, but his mercy can be given to the gentiles as well. The truth is the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus that leads us all to everlasting life. Paul wants nothing more than to bring salvation to the people, but he recognizes how important the faith is to the Jewish converts. He wants to recognize their place in the adoption our father makes through Jesus. He shares the promise of eternal life to both Jew and Gentile.

The truth that Paul attests to is true for us as well. When we practice our faith, then we can live in the freedom of Christ. This can be in Mass when we fully participate in the mysteries of our salvation. The Mass allows us to proclaim the truth by saying yes to Jesus in Word and sacrament. As Catholics, we believe we have the fullness of the faith and we need to work hard to build up the Body of Christ right here in the Catholic Church. We do not know the power of God's mercy and how many others will be saved. We pray for our brothers and sisters in faith as we celebrate the promise Paul believed in. This brings us to the fullness of Joy found only in the Kingdom of God.