

Connecting with the Sunday Readings

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Word
John 1:35–42

This Sunday we hear about two searchers. The searchers first went to John the Baptist in the hope that John would be the one they were seeking. Then Jesus came along and they went to Jesus. The Gospel reading gives us no clue as to why they went to Jesus. One of the searchers was Andrew, Peter's brother. That first meeting with Jesus motivated him to go and get Peter. The rest of course is history!

Jesus' first two disciples were led by wonder. They asked a simple question that had depths they could hardly imagine: "where are you staying?" they asked him (John 1:38). Jesus' response is equally simple and also profound: "Come and see" (John 1:39). Eventually they would see that this passing rabbi (teacher) would reveal to them the deepest truth of their lives.

Living the Word

We are all capable of encountering God, but the ways we do so vary. One size doesn't fit all.

We are all on a mission of search and discovery. We don't have all the answers. In fact, for most of us, our questions far outweigh our answers. We are curious, desirous of making more sense out of the confusion of our lives. In a sense, when we are in this state of unease, we are exactly where God wants us to be because only when we are searching can we find God.

It starts with searching for something more. Do we respect the questions that dwell within us? Are we always searching for greater insight about ourselves and our lives? Do we encourage others to ask questions, especially those touching on our Christian faith? Today we speak of God as the Great Mystery. By that we don't mean "mystery" as in mystery story, but as the One who exceeds all creation, the boundless source of all that is and ever will be. When we find (or are given) a small piece of that mystery, we hunger for more and more and more. We are designed with an insatiable hunger for God and for truth. Every day we begin again. Every day we are invited by Jesus to come and see the wonders of God. Each of us alone and together travels together in a lifelong journey of discovery.

One-line Prayer

Triune God of great mystery,
We bow before your greatness. Help
us in our desire to know you better.
Amen.