



Reflection for the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

My dear friends in Christ, what shines forth in all the readings of today, (Isaiah, Paul and Peter), is their awareness of their unworthiness and so their dependence on God and God's grace.

In the first reading today, (Isaiah 6: 1- 2a, 3- 4), Isaiah hearing the voices proclaim the pure praise of the Lord, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of Hosts! All the earth is filled with His glory!, he became overwhelmed with his unworthiness to be in such a place.

Isaiah expresses his unworthiness, saying "Woe is me, I am doomed! For I am a man of unclean lips; living among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of host!

A Seraph touches Isaiah's lips with a coal from the altar saying to him, "See, now that this has touched your lips, your wickedness is removed, your sins are purged."

In the second reading today, (ICorinthians 15: 1- 11), Paul emphasizes his own unworthiness by referring to himself as "the least of the apostles" and stating that he is "unworthy to be called an apostle" because of his past actions when he persecuted the Church of God.

Paul highlights that it is solely through God's grace that he was able to be an apostle and proclaim the gospel. "But by the grace of God I am what I am and His grace to me has not been ineffective."

In the gospel reading today, (Luke 5:1- 11), Peter's unworthiness is highlighted by his immediate reaction to Jesus' miraculous catch of fish, where he falls to his knees and exclaims, "Depart from me, Lord for I am a sinful man."

Peter recognizing his own sinfulness and feeling completely inadequate to be in the presence of Jesus, a Holy Being; this action of Peter demonstrates his awareness of his own shortcomings and his need for God's grace.

My dear brothers and sisters, we are called today to imitate the humility of Isaiah, Paul and Peter, by hearing the voice of God and realizing our own unworthiness.

Dear friends, realizing our own unworthiness, we should ask God for His grace which is His unmerited favor and help, to guide our steps and illuminate our life's direction, providing clarity and leading us towards the right path even when things seem unclear or challenging.

May God give us the grace to recognize our weaknesses in the mirror of God's word, and the grace to ask Him to help us.

Peace be with you all!

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