

God Empowers

Wednesday of the Twenty-fifth Week in Ordinary Time

September 24, 2014

READINGS

First Reading: [PRV 30:5-9](#)

Responsorial Psalm: [PS 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163](#)

Gospel: [LK 9:1-6](#)

Homily

God empowers those whom He calls. In our Gospel today, when Jesus summoned His twelve disciples. He empowered them by giving them authority to liberate people from various diseases and unclean spirits and to proclaim God's Kingdom.

"Jesus summoned the Twelve and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them to proclaim the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick."

Yet this power can only be made manifest if the disciples would rely solely in God's providence, if they put all their trust in God. To enable them to do that, Jesus told them not to bring anything for the journey, no walking stick, no sack, not even food and money. Their whole attention must be on the mission and not on providing security for themselves. They must be totally dependent on God who provides for them. God empowers them by taking care of needs. And so Jesus told them to stay in a house where they are welcome. If they are not

welcome, they are to proceed to another town to continue the mission. By telling them this, Jesus warned them that this is bound to happen. However, they are not to feel discouraged and weakened. Jesus' warning is a way of telling them that God empowers them to proceed with the mission even in the most discouraging situations they encounter along the journey. And the disciples did as they were told and "went from village to village proclaiming the Good News and curing diseases everywhere." And God accompanied them.

Here, we learn that to everyone whom God calls, He empowers. This call is not only to a selected few but for all of us who are baptized into Christ. At our baptism, God empowers us to continue the mission of Christ wherever we are and whatever we do in life. Let us then be confident that God empowers us with the necessary skills and knowledge and the right attitude and even sufficient provisions to enable us to do our mission. God requires one thing though, that we wholeheartedly trust Him.

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