

February 9-10, 2019

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 6:1-8

First Corinthians 15:3-8

Luke 5:1-11

How many successes have never occurred because of fatal doom, gloom and outdated negativity? *'It will never work!' 'You're not good enough!' 'Why bother?' 'Nobody else has been able to do it, why even try?' 'You're not big enough, strong enough, rich enough, smart enough, beautiful enough, to accomplish THAT!' 'Don't send a woman to do a man's job.' 'If men were supposed to fly, they would have had wings.'*

As we heard in last week's Scriptures, the people of two thousand years ago did not want to believe that Jesus could possibly be GOD....because he was so....so....so...human! This weekend's Gospel sets the stage for the same negativity....but Simon Peter saves the day, barely. In response to Jesus, a carpenter, instructing a group of fishermen how to fish, Peter replies: 'Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing....but at your command I will lower the nets.' With nets filled to the bursting, the apostles learned an important lesson: when it comes to Jesus, expect the unexpected and don't ever presume something is impossible....for, with God, all things are possible. Negative statements regarding every aspect of life abound, all offering opportunities to avoid failing before we even try something. In avoiding things out of fear of failure we also avoid the possibility of success and triumph. Jesus SUCCEEDED not by avoiding the Cross but by dying upon it. Knowing that this weekend is our DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN PLEDGE weekend, there are some who say our dream of a permanent Church is a fantasy and we should be content with never having one. There are those who say we will never be able to raise millions and millions of dollars to pay for our permanent structures. There are lots of people who think we are fools to try to do the impossible. How interesting that on our PLEDGE WEEKEND Jesus asks us to lower our nets one more time. Impossible? Perhaps. Foolish? Possibly. A silly dream? Time will tell. But we will do what Jesus asks and we will lower our nets. And we will lower them again next year, and the year after that and the year after that....until our walls will rise and the impossible will have become real.

With Super Sunday behind us and Valentine's Day approaching, thank you for sharing this DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN PLEDGE WEEKEND with our Santa Clara community. Please take a copy of the Bulletin home with you for news of other events coming up in the weeks ahead. Thank you for your trust in where God is leading Santa Clara and thank you for your generosity...and....please remember, you are loved. FKB