

Third Monday of Advent, December 13 Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21-23-27

The Gospel for today highlights one of the common actions of Jesus – the process of answering a question with a question. When people asked Jesus a question, often He gave them a question back. In fact, He hardly ever gave a direct answer to anything. In the four Gospels, Jesus asked 339 questions. Questions are looking for the truth. He wanted His audience to go away and figure out the answer for themselves.

We learn by daring to follow the questions God stirs in our hearts. Our hearts are full of questions. What is God's plan for our lives? How do we follow in God's footsteps? Will we be strong enough in our faith when facing opposition of our beliefs? How can God love me as I am? How do we work towards a sin-free life?

The COVID epidemic introduces another group of questions. How can God allow such a horrific disease? Where is He as we struggle through this heartbreak? Are our prayers being heard? Are they being answered? Where lays the truth within the information being presented? Surely, there is truth there.

All these questions require thought and contemplation and quite possibly lead to more questions. But Jesus is there even as we question His actions or lack thereof. Where do we go from here? With faith, we turn to Jesus. We clothe ourselves with hope. Let go of fear, anger, frustration, hopelessness, and embrace the truth of the promises of Jesus:

"I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:20

"Don't let your hearts be troubled." John 14:1

God promised that all things will work out for good for His children (Romans 8:28).

Sounds simple, does not it. Or maybe it sounds overwhelming at this moment? However, it is the only way to go forth, when we can do nothing on our own. We need to turn our questions over to Jesus and then let go. Have faith that He will do what's best for us.

Kathy Leonard

Mustard Seeds Member