

Outline for Lent 2c – Feb. 21, 2016

“Faith Is About God Seeking Us?” Based on Gen. 15:1-12, 17-18 and Luke `13:31-35

Introduction: The movie “Hero” had a character played by Dustin Hoffman in which an ordinary ‘passerby’ became an unintentionally, a hero. In contrast, Abraham and Sarah left their home on the simple command of God ‘to go to a land I will show you.’

- Promised them a child as well as a homeland. They were impatient and skeptical, but the promises were eventually fulfilled
- What was learned is that God comes after us whether we seek God or not. Then, we respond to God choosing us.
- Secondly, Abraham and Sarah do not instantly become ‘holy people’. They tried to ‘hurry the process’, to interfere with their own solutions. But God keeps his Word, and delivers a child and a land to live in.

This is what the Christian life is all about. We are growing into our chosenness, responding to our Baptism. That’s what ‘sanctification’ is all about – God choosing what is common, us, and molding us into what God wants. We are ‘a work in process’. Nothing noteworthy to start with, but, with God’s help, we become a fulfillment of our potential.

- Funeral of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, featured his son, Paul, a priest, speaking of his father working at his faith, seeking to become a Catholic (Christian), realizing it was an ongoing project.
- Jesus, in the Gospel, mourns over the city of Jerusalem; even after it was there that many prophets and messengers of God were killed. After their constant rebellion and obstinacy, Jesus is willing to sacrifice his life to save them all.

We are encouraged to open ourselves to the spiritual pilgrimage with God that may be filled with ambiguity and a circuitous route, but will eventually lead to an eternal reward that is beyond our wildest dreams. Our prayer is that each of us will respond to God’s call, and find a safe harbor at our journey’s end!