

Look Book Took
The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
February 10, 2019

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Look:

Have you ever had a time when you heard God calling you in your life or moving you towards a direction? If so, share.

Book:

Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

1. "In the year King Uzziah died," indicates that this passage took place at a very specific time. This places God's voice to a specific person at a specific

point in time. Do you think this matters? Why?

2. Do you like the image of the burning coal touching the lips? This cleansing of sin is done with fire. Why do you think the coals were put to the lips? (Hint: what do prophets do?)
3. Where have you heard the "Holy, Holy, Holy," before? (Hint: every Sunday, or Saturday night)
4. Do you think Isaiah had a choice in how to respond to the Lord's question?

Luke 5:1-11

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

1. Jesus has performed miracles up to this point and this seems to be the moment in Luke's Gospel that Peter follows

Jesus. Why do you think this miracle is the turning point?

2. Does Jesus accept Simon Peter even though he declares himself unworthy?
3. How is the call of Simon Peter similar to the call of Isaiah?
4. How is it different?
5. What happened to all the fish they just caught?

Took:

Prophets like Jeremiah and Isaiah are prophets of old and were often rejected by society. What might a prophet such as these two say today?

Isaiah was in a Sanctuary, a temple and Simon Peter was in the presence of Jesus. Where do you feel closest to God? Where do you think is a physical place in your life where you can listen for God's message to you?

Has your faith, belief in Jesus, led to a transformation at any point in your life? Speak as if you are talking to someone who asks what is so transformative about Christianity. What would you say within 2 minutes?

The message carried by prophets and by Jesus is not always easy to hear or follow. Many in Scripture did not. What is Jesus' message to Simon Peter as you heard it?

How do you hear God calling St. David's to be fishers of people?

Homework: Tell someone this week about how Jesus and/or St. David's has transformed your life. Someone not in our community.