

They left their nets and followed Him ~Midweek Reflection # 32

“The time has come.” Jesus said, The Kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!” “As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea-for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, ‘Follow me and I will make you fish for people.’ And immediately they left their nets and followed him.” Mark 115, 19,20.

Jesus announces a Kairos moment, when God’s time intersects with our chronological time and Something new and wonderful is created in our midst. Later Jesus would say “The Kingdom of God is among you”. Much later St. Paul would write, “Christ in you, the hope of glory.” And because God’s timing is what it is, the present moment is always the right time to respond, to drop our nets and to follow. Oh that we would be as quick to drop the “nets” that we so often insist on clinging to and that weigh us down on the journey. Our nets are often very good and common things that get in the way of the spiritual journey toward union with God and service to our neighbors. I think that is one of those spiritual tasks we need help from our faith community to work on, again and again! As President Obama expressed so well in his inaugural address, we each need to act, to engage (“fish ?) with one another.

“One day there came along that silent shore,while I my net was casting in the sea, a man who spoke as never man before. I followed him, new life began in me. Mine was the boat, but his the voice, and his the call, yet mine the choice.” ~George MacDonald

“The Kingdom of God isn’t announced with handshakes (however momentous), political flourishes, or speeches that move the heart. As in this place, it will be known in thorough healing work; painstaking attention to particular bodies, the binding and silencing of demons of hatred and injustice that do not want to leave or lose their grip ~ the mighty works,in daily life, of flourishing community.” ~ Janet Morley, Companions of God; Praying for Peace in the Holy Land

May this be a time for all of us who want to follow Christ to examine our lives and help each other “drop” whatever “nets” we might be carrying God bless you on your journey.

Under God's Mercy,

Howie