

Commentary on the Gospel for Sun, Feb 5th 2023

Read: Isaiah challenges his readers to put their faith into practice so that they can bring light and hope to their communities. Paul reminds the Corinthians that his mission and preaching are not about worldly wisdom but are based in humility and the cross. Matthew continues the Sermon on the Mount with Jesus calling his followers to glorify God by their lives.

Reflect: What does it mean to live as a person of faith? Today's readings provide answers to that question. Being a person of faith is not simply an intellectual assent to a series of theological claims. Faith changes the way we live. It requires that we step beyond our selfish concerns and care for those in need. People of faith seek righteousness, not power. Any power we do have is merely a reflection of God's power.

Righteous living helps people directly by meeting their needs, but also by manifesting God's goodness to them. The light they share brings clarity and warmth to those trapped in the cold and darkness. The shining example of the righteous draws people to God.

Pray: Father, give me the grace I need to share the light of my faith with the people I meet.

Act: Fast from food or a small pleasure and contribute to those who are hungry.

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