

THE QUESTION OF THE WEEK

“No one who puts his hand to the plow and keeps looking back to what was left behind
is worthy of the kingdom of God.”

Luke 9: 62

Second guessing decisions already made. We sometimes do that. Having second thoughts about where I am heading in my life. I know I have done that too. Second guesses. Second thoughts. We reconsider. But in the gospel for today Jesus speaks to those who want to be his followers. It is a simple counsel. Once you start out on the path of the gospel, keep looking forward. Don't keep looking back. Why? Because you can grow afraid. Because you can begin to lose hope. Because you can begin to think that you promised too much. Or that you cannot do what lies ahead by yourself. If you keep looking back it will paralyze you. Remember Lot's wife in the Book of Genesis as they are fleeing the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah which are being destroyed because of the wickedness therein? She is given the same advice from the angels that Jesus gives his disciples. Don't look back. What happens when she does? She is turned into a pillar of salt. Frozen in that looking back. She loses her life.

Jesus knows all this. He knows that the effect of sin in the world is to take away our connection to God and when we lose that connection we begin to think that everything depends on us. And it starts to become too much for us. So Our Lord says, keep looking forward. Plow the field you are presently plowing. Know that you are not alone. Believe that I am aware of your situation. Believe that I will provide for you the graces necessary to accomplish the tasks that lie before you.

You are not alone. Even if you feel as if you are. Choose to believe. Speak to me, the Lord says. Tell me of your situation. Ask me for what you need. I want you to put it into words. I want you to trust that I am listening and I will respond. Jesus says that we are to ask and seek and knock. We hear that. It makes sense to us but so often we fail to do that. Instead we give in to the doubts that the enemy uses to beset us. This won't work. You can't do that. Who do you think you are anyway? The enemy does that to us. And we lose our vigor, we doubt our conviction. We fail to believe that the Lord is our buckler and our shield. We must ask for his protection. We must ask for his assistance. Each day. Every day. Throughout the day. See, like a lot doesn't it? Yes, it does. But it isn't and you know what? His way works. Do you believe that? The question of the week.