

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper of 8

Year A, July 2, 2023

Saint John Episcopal Church

Lessons;

Genesis 22:1-14

Psalm 13

Romans 6:12-23

Matthew 10:40-42.

Jesus's Discipleship

By Reverend William Font Sanchez

“A disciple is not above the teacher...”

In the name of the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit.

A. Why am I quoting last week's gospel

- I am avoiding any misunderstanding about today's Gospel.
- Today's gospel could be 'sound'; that is a call to this community to give me my position as a new priest.
- In other words, it is as if Jesus (and me) conspired to tell you to give your place and privilege.

However, today's gospel is far away from this idea.

- Today's gospel has to be read in the context and sequence of the previous Sunday's gospels. Jesus is giving his second big speech. Jesus is teaching his disciples how we should live his discipleship demands.
- Jesus has been demanding his apostle commit to living as his disciples.
- In addition, I believe that this call is for everybody.

B. However, how we got here? Let us see the story of this King and his Kingdom to read today's celebration properly.

- Jesus and his Kingdom have been irrupting in this world. (Mt, 1-4)
- Then, Jesus has given a speech about whom belongs to his Kingdom (Mt 5-8)
- Later, in chapters 8 to 9, Jesus shows authority over everything.
- He is a healer; he restores everything, forgives everybody, eats with sinners, etc....
- Now, and after setting the standards, in chapter 10, he tells his disciples how to serve and bring his kingdom to the world.
- By the way, to reinforce this call to discipleship as a service, in chapters (13-23) he tells His Church how to live the Discipleship.

C. Therefore, my ministry and ordination have to be seen:

- In the way of Jesus's teaching
- In Jesus' standards of Discipleship
- But, more important, in the context and service of His Kingdom and Church.

D. Please, receive me and my ordination today as :

- Jesus demanding me to be his disciple...
- To serve you...his people
- O continue works for His Church (you) and His Kingdom.

E. This altar will be the place of this Covenant.

Amen.