

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalm 27

In the day of trouble, God will give me shelter. (v5)

Philippians 3:17--4:1

Luke 13:31-35

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, & shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord, who lives & reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Luke 13:31-35

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came & said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³²He said to them, “Go & tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons & performing cures today & tomorrow, & on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, & the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets & stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, & you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. & I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. Jesus insults both Herod & the pharisees, as well as the Jerusalem priests & scribes (vv32-33). How are these comments both ironic & similar to *John 11:45-53*? Look for details in Luke’s account of the Passion (*Luke 22:35--23:43*). In other words, how is this a disguised passion prediction (*cf. 9:21-22, 43-45, 18:31-34*)? By the way, how do you feel about Jesus being so contemptuous, offensive, & disrespectful? Note: think “fox” in the henhouse.
2. What else is ironic about v35? *See Luke 19:29-44; 23:13-24*

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. The unwillingness of God’s people to turn & to return to him is a constant theme from Genesis to Revelation. List 4 or 5 times you stubbornly refused God’s gracious call & even were actively opposed to, hostile to, or scornful & spurning of it. What was the outcome of each? How could turning or returning to God have made a difference?
4. The Pharisees (generally on Herod’s “team”) are here to intimidate Jesus into leaving Herod & his territory alone. Name 4 or 5 times you’ve been intimidated (made timid) from acting openly faithful? What was at stake at the time? Looking back, was your perception right? What did you learn from these episodes?
Note #3, 4: if you’ve never done so, bring these events of your everyday life with you to confession (either the brief rite before worship, or the individual rite with your pastor), naming them explicitly, & hearing God’s promised forgiveness.

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. How is forgiveness generally, & the Rite(s) of Forgiveness specifically, God gathering his children like a hen does her brood (*cf. Psalm 36:7*)? But first, people must know they need his forgiveness. How can you winsomely, helpfully, genuinely, & unguardedly make this case to people in your everyday life? *See Psalm 51:1-4; Romans 1:18-25, 3:9-20, 23 (really, all of Romans 1 & 3 are great!)*
6. Jesus is confident that Herod (nor any other power) can’t stop his ministry. Believers share in this confidence (*i.e. Ephesians 2:10; Hebrews 13:20-21; cf. Ecclesiastes 3:9-13*). How does this encourage you in your everyday discipleship, joining Jesus on his mission, for the sake of others?

Second Sunday in Lent
Series: Repent!

03.13.22
Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Who Do You Fear?

Life & death matters bring urgency & clarity; Jesus isn't afraid

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: [Jesus] said to them, “Go & tell that fox for me, ‘...it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ (v33a,34b)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

The Son of Man must be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. (*John 3:14-15*)

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