

Wednesday 20th May 2020

Acts 6:1-7; 1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12. Reflection:

Home” a place where normally you are happy to get back to on a daily basis. Whether it be large or small, it is where most people like to be at the end of our normal day to day activities. Yet as we know we have spent so many weeks now in our homes lately as we shelter in order to keep safe from the pandemic virus. In the background of virtual classrooms, webinars, broadcasts, on line meetings etc. we see many differing backgrounds, from boardrooms to small cottages. Life for all aspects can be interesting to see. For some, home is comforting and safe. Other homes cry out under the weight of loneliness, boredom, and depression. And there are those who have no home at all, a circumstance that grows as people lose jobs, “couch surfing” is impossible, and even begging on the streets yields nothing but an empty pail.

The early disciples acted to rectify inequalities in distribution, prayerfully appointing respected members of the community to make sure everyone got what they needed. They were determined to be like Jesus Christ, to everyone who came to them. In addition to a suitable earthly dwelling, they worked to provide the kind of “home” that Jesus taught about – one not made by human hands. In the dwelling place of God, each one of us has a room. There we truly belong and are accepted as we are, with no outcasts, no condemnation, and no shame. Just as it was in the early church, this crisis has brought so many inequalities to the fore.

The Gospel challenges us to think of ways that we can use the resources we have to change that in even a small way. What can we do to help provide food, safety net, healthcare, solace, and sense of belonging to those who have so little? How can we be Christ to others? The issues are overwhelming and growing more the longer this crisis lasts. We cannot solve it, by ourselves but we cannot be still. We can help make a difference. We can pray for all the essential workers. Remember, Jesus told us, “Whoever, believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater than these.”

Spirit of truth, come close to us. Unite us into the body of Christ. Enable us to worship God in Spirit and in truth. Help us to support and encourage each other. Help us to love as we are loved. Spirit of truth, come and abide in us. **Amen.**