

## Second Sunday of the Year -- B

I believe that God always shows the greater generosity. For example,

a. In the Old Testament passage, a young lad kept awaking up and hearing voices and didn't know what was happening. What started out as irritating turned out to be God's generosity by calling Samuel to be a prophet.

b. In the Gospel episode, Andrew and a companion were intrigued by a stranger pointed out to them. They just wanted to find out where the guy lived. In Jesus' generosity they got more than a home tour – they met the Messiah!

c. Even the psalmist realized this divine generosity. The person prayed and waited and waited; and God responded by stooping down to the pray-er and giving the pray-er a reason to sing! The person burned up dead animals in attempt to please God, and God allowed the pray-er to hear God's voice.

Now some people might say, "Well, that's fine for those other people but that could never happen to me." And I'd respond that if God could make himself heard by a sleeping kid, God can also make himself known to you and me.

In fact, it's always **God** who starts the process (not me) – God awakened Samuel; the second person of the Trinity became human; Jesus turned and asked the two tagalongs the question, "What are you looking for?" and then he invited them to "come and see."

God is doing the same thing here today: "What are **you** looking for?" and when you answer God, the response is, "Come and see. Come and see who I am. Come and see what I have for you. I'll give you more than you can imagine." The generosity of God wants to give us more. For example,

a. We may want help to stop watching porn. Then God not only frees us from the compulsion to watch porn; God goes further by helping us strengthen our family relationships and giving us a good circle of friends.

b. When my friend found out she had breast cancer and celebrated the Sacrament of the Sick and asked for healing, not only did her surgery go well, but she and her brother were reconciled after 20 years of estrangement.

c. In my own life, I consistently find that God goes above and beyond what I ask for, knowing better than I do what I really need.

In the end I believe that God sees *more potential* in us than what we see in ourselves. God can see *more* in us what we even believe is possible. When Jesus met Simon, he saw his potential and nicknamed him Rocky; but Peter was a pretty lousy rock until after the resurrection.

Like Peter, I also need *time* to figure out what will please God and to do what God desires. But God consistently shows the greater generosity by giving me **more time**, and also gives me **forgiveness** when I fail. Jesus consistently offers more than we ask for.

Soooo .... **dare** to tell God what you're looking for! And then **expect** to receive more!