

Reflection Saturday Easter Week 2 – 2021

Acts reminds us of the importance of making our voices heard. Done in the right way it often brings benefit not only to us but to others as well. The growth of the early Christian community required not only preachers but also people to help with the nitty gritty of daily life – both equally important. The newly appointed people became witnesses more by what they did and how they reached out to those in need than in what they said. We already know what happened to Stephen who was eventually called to witness with his life. An unfortunate way of thinking today is to compare different roles: the movers and shakers with the people working quietly on the ground. In fact, each are important in their own way. It is no good having great ideas if people are not available to help make them a concrete reality. I am sure we would all like to walk on water like Jesus but the story helps us recognise that, often in difficult situations, Jesus makes his presence felt and everything works out well for everyone, just as they did in the story from Acts.

There is a story about five brothers who were orphans. They inherited a rice paddy from their parents but it was a long way from home, so they had to travel there at dawn every day.

All agreed to let the youngest brother stay at home and take care of the house. The young brother was happy with this. Every day, when his brothers returned home, they found the house tidy, clean and comfortable; food and drink were waiting for them; he even did their washing.

One of his brothers, however, told the others that the youngest brother was lazy for not going to work in the field. They all agreed and decided to take the youngest brother with them. However, when they returned home it was in a mess and there was no food to welcome them. Only then did they realize how important their youngest brother had been.

Don't make the same mistake!!