

Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

July 8, 2018

In the first reading God is sending his prophet to preach to the Israelites who were rebels. God tells Ezekiel to preach whether they “heed or resist”. It wasn’t up to Ezekiel to make them believe; his only job was to do what God asked of him and let God take care of the rest.

In the second reading, Paul states that he was given a “thorn in the flesh” due to his bend towards the sin of pride (which in truth, we all are susceptible). Instead of being resentful, he embraces it realizing it is for his own good. God told him, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.”

In the final reading, Mark tells us that the people in Jesus’ hometown were skeptical of Him. They couldn’t see beyond the box that they put him in from knowing him as a child. Their hearts were hardened to the truth and they lost an opportunity to be ministered to.

When I reflect on these stories, I realize that although I’m not a prophet, I am a parent. As a parent, I am called to teach my kids how to know, love and serve God. I’m thankful that like Paul, God can turn my weaknesses and failures into His good. He can perfect my weaknesses so that my kids don’t miss out on the possibility of heaven. Finally, I wonder if there is someone in my life who is trying to spiritually minister to me yet I reject because of the box I’ve put them in? My prayer is to be open to God’s call and trust that He will give me all that is necessary to carry out His will.

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