Reflection for September 26 2021

The Twenty-Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

from Jon Metz

In today's Gospel John says to Jesus that he tried to stop another who was conducting ministry in Jesus' name. John tried to stop the man because they were not one of the known followers of Jesus. Jesus rebukes John saying, "Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me. For whoever is not against us is for us." We can understand the protective nature of John who wanted to hold reverent Jesus and his ministry, but John failed to see the bigger picture.

We are all called to live out the good news, not just a select few. We all have a responsibility to live the Gospel in our lives. Saint Theresa of Avila said, "Christ has not body now but ours." So, by this statement, we all have an obligation to be the hands and feet of Christ here and now on earth. We are called to help others in need, speak up against injustice and show the love of Christ to our neighbors.

- Have you judged another who is trying to do the right thing, but you didn't think it was their place?
- How are you the hands and feet of Jesus today?
- How do you show the love of Christ to your neighbor?