



2nd SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME *YEAR C – January 20, 2019*

There is a story told about a minister who decided that a visual demonstration would add emphasis to his Sunday sermon. So he placed four worms into four separate jars as he began to speak. He then explained what he was doing.

The first worm was put into a container of alcohol.

The second worm was put into a container of cigarette smoke.

The third worm was put into a container of chocolate syrup.

The fourth worm was put into a container of good clean soil.

At the conclusion of his sermon, the Minister reported the following results:

“The first worm in alcohol - Dead.

The second worm in cigarette smoke - Dead.

Third worm in chocolate syrup - Dead.

Fourth worm in good clean soil - **Alive and Well!**”

Then the Minister asked the congregation, “What can we all learn from this demonstration?”

Maxine, a parishioner known to everyone, was sitting in the back of the church. She quickly raised her hand and said, “The lesson is clear Pastor:

As long as you drink booze
smoke cigarettes and eat chocolate,
you won't get worms!”

Sometimes, the message intended by the speaker is not the message received by the listener.
Sometimes the message intended by the writer is not the message received by the reader.

That can even happen when people read the bible or listen to a passage proclaimed from a pulpit.

The scriptures today speak to us about happy times - a wedding feast at Cana. What is the message that God wants you to hear from that passage? What is the message that applies to your life - now - in present tenses? Are you married? Are you planning to marry? Do you have a different vocation? Are you in need of something that only God can provide?

St. Paul speaks to us about the many different gifts that come to us from the Holy Spirit. There is one mission, but many ministries. You are part of that one mission, but what is your ministry - the ministry that only you can fulfill?

For a few moments in silence, listen for God's voice. What is the message he wants you to hear today and then, what will you do about it?

List of Spiritual Gifts in the Bible

Romans 12:4-8 (7) 1 Cor. 12:29-30 (7)

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|-----------------|------------------------|
| • Prophecy | • Apostles |
| • Ministry | • Prophecy |
| • Teaching | • Teaching |
| • Exhortation | • Miracles |
| • Giving | • Healing |
| • Ruling | • Tongues |
| • Showing Mercy | • Interpreting tongues |