**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

July 15th 2018

Before the world was made, He chose us

Today’s readings are full of advice and hope for us as Christians. In our First Reading we hear about Amos standing up for his role given to him by God. We learn about steadfastness and obedience. In our Second St Paul instills in us the importance of being disciples - God chose us, before even the world was created. If we are chosen we have a responsibility to fill. We are called to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are called, like Amos, to stand up for the tasks God has given us - even in the face of those who do not wish to hear it. Now, in the Gospel today we have some practical advice we can follow.

**Be in pairs**

Being a Christian is hard on your own. Being in communion (in a community) with other people helps support and guide your faith. Do you seek out friends who will support and guide your faith? You may have friends who actively try to attack your faith - these types of friends are not good for you, it will be hard but you need to make tough decisions about that.

**Leave the world behind**

The disciples were told not to take their worldly possessions with them. In fact it was a very stripped back list. There are so many things that we ‘clothe’ ourselves with that distracts us. Be bold. Shake them off. Focus on Christ and the mission at hand.

Catherine

SYMT