

## Commentary on the Gospel for Tue, Oct 18th 2016

Saint Luke, Evangelist

Today, we remember Saint Luke Evangelist. Each time we celebrate an Evangelist's feast we are remembering one of the most important aspects of the church: evangelization, sowing the Gospel seed throughout the world; this is the deepest identity of the Church. This work should be done by each community and by each Christian. Today's Gospel invites us to be missionaries.

Jesus Christ in the Gospel tell us that this is not an easy work: "I am sending you like lambs among wolves". It is a strong image to tell us that our environment is not going to receive the Gospel. Sometimes it will be against it. In the XXI century the main problem is indifference, rather than some kind of rejection or fight against the Gospel.

In the Gospel Jesus gives us some other advice: "set off without purse or bag or sandals; and do not stop at the homes of those you know". There are so many things that can disturb us, and at the end we can lose energy, illusion or authenticity. Anyway, in this Gospel, Jesus invites us to be missionaries. Are we ready to follow his invitation? Some will have a special vocation to be missionaries in other countries. But each of us can be a missionary, in whatever we do and say; we can announce the Gospel with our humble testimony. We must keep in mind a small detail from this Gospel that we sometimes forget. We must be persons that bless. We are invited to bless, to bring God's blessing wherever we are.

Remember what Jesus tells us: "you must ask the Lord of the harvest to send workers to his harvest". This is another important part of our evangelization task, praying to the Lord asking for more workers. We should pray asking for more missionaries, more priests and more lays that listening to this calling, will generously follow Jesus spreading the Gospel throughout the world.

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