

Commentary on the Gospel for Wed, Aug 2nd 2017

As I was reflecting on the readings for today I got caught up in the story of Moses and his people. I imagined him coming down the mountain, sort of light and bouncy, carrying those tablets and glowing with the Glory of God. He was in a “good place” and couldn’t understand why his friends were afraid and possibly intimidated. I spent a lot of time considering why he would cover his face. Why did Moses feel like he needed to hide the effect of God’s presence with him? I spent so much time here, I finally realized that God was asking me the same question. Why/where am I hiding God’s presence within me from the world? For me, this translates into asking why/where am I holding on to unforgiveness, guilt and pain but mostly where am I living from a place of fear rather than love? I know when I can be forgiving and confident, when I can live from a place of love and my True Self, God’s loving presence shines through me. People notice. Some are afraid and would wish me to replace my mask, my veil. Others desire to be where I am, to have what I have. I then have an opportunity to share about my prayer, my relationship with God, much as Moses did. Unlike Moses, however, I feel called to intentionally not veil my face. To be who God created me to be. To live from a place of love and not fear.

I hear in today’s readings an invitation for every day, not just today, to ask “How are we glowing with the Glory of God?” and “How/where are we veiling or masking who we are?” It strikes me that these questions can be individual but they can also be communal. Whether it is a family community, church community, civic community or world community we can ask “How are we glowing with the Glory of God?” and “How are we masking or hiding who God created us to be?”

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