

Annunciation Parish - Scripture Study 5/9/23

—Greeting and Opening Prayer

Any thoughts or questions from scripture passages you have read?

- Other faith questions?

READINGS:

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 (Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.)

1 Pt 3:15-18

Jn 14:15-21

GOSPEL:

- If you love me then keep my commandments
 - Love means keeping the commandments - but is this to prove something to Him or is it out of His love for us that He directs this?
 - What commandments is He talking about?
- The Advocate will be with us always. This is who?
 - This spirit is the Spirit of Truth, he “remains with you and will be in you”
- He says He is going away but will not leave them orphans
- I am in the Father, and you are in me and I in you.
 - What is this about?
- Observing His commandments = loving Him , and loving Him = being loved by the Father and being loved by Him - and having Him reveal Himself.
 - What’s all this about?

FIRST READING:

- Phillip is listened to by the church because (1) the word itself, and (2) the signs he was performing
- The coming of the power of Jesus in Phillip brings great joy to the church.
 - What would it do if the same thing happened today?
- Jerusalem as a central place of Church administration
- Why are Peter and John sent? Why not only through Phillip?
- What is the difference between the Baptism that they had received and the reception of the Spirit?
- What does this remind you of in our current practice?
 - Even then there are two different practices.

SECOND READING:

- Be ready to answer anyone who asks for the reason for your hope.
 - But do it with gentleness, reverence, and a clear conscience
- Better to suffer for doing good over evil - suffering will happen either way.
- WHEN you are maligned (not IF you are maligned)
- Christ also suffered and was put to death - but brought to life
 - We are not any better (certainly not more righteous), what does this say about the path to life?

—Closing Prayer