

A Weekly Word

Renee Noseworthy

Readings for the week of May 1/22:

Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)

Psalm 30

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

In these readings, we see two examples of what can happen when we listen to God.

In John 21: 4-6, we read, *"Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish."*

In the Acts 9 reading, we read about how Saul was persecuting Christians, and in some cases, he was murdering them. Despite this, when Saul became blind, God sent Ananias to pray for him. Saul was healed, and immediately began spreading the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Following the Lord's will was difficult in both cases. After a long day of fishing, the disciples would likely have been tired and hungry. Ananias would have had plenty of reason to fear Saul.

Despite the obstacles, the disciples were immediately obedient to Jesus' instructions. As a result, they caught enough fish that it was difficult to haul in their catch. Also, Ananias was obedient to God's leading, which resulted in Saul's healing and conversion.

Doing things God's way is not always easy, but it is always the best thing to do.