

Second Sunday in Lent Year A

FIRST READING

Genesis 12:1-4a

The LORD said to Abram:

“Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk
and from your father’s house to a land that I will show you.

“I will make of you a great nation,
and I will bless you;
I will make your name great,
so that you will be a blessing.
I will bless those who bless you
and curse those who curse you.
All the communities of the earth
shall find blessing in you.”

Abram went as the LORD directed him.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 33:4-5,18-19,20,22

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Upright is the word of the LORD,
and all his works are trustworthy.
He loves justice and right;
of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him,
upon those who hope for his kindness,
To deliver them from death
and preserve them in spite of famine.

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Our soul waits for the LORD,
who is our help and our shield.
May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us
who have put our hope in you.

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:8b-10

Beloved:

Bear your share of hardship for the gospel
with the strength that comes from God.

He saved us and called us to a holy life,
not according to our works
but according to his own design
and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began,
but now made manifest
through the appearance of our savior Christ Jesus,
who destroyed death and brought life and immortality
to light through the gospel.

GOSPEL

Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother,
and led them up a high mountain by themselves.
And he was transfigured before them;
his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light.
And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them,
conversing with him.

Then Peter said to Jesus in reply,
“Lord, it is good that we are here.
If you wish, I will make three tents here,
one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”
While he was still speaking, behold,
a bright cloud cast a shadow over them,
then from the cloud came a voice that said,
“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.” When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate
and were very much afraid.

But Jesus came and touched them, saying,
“Rise, and do not be afraid.”
And when the disciples raised their eyes,
they saw no one else but Jesus alone.

As they were coming down from the mountain,
Jesus charged them, “Do not tell the vision to anyone
until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

Discussion Questions for Readings - Second Sunday of Lent, Year A

1. In what ways can modern man emulate Abram by prioritizing God's direction over comfort, career, or cultural ties - to become a "blessing" for their household and communities?
2. In leading others, how might men reflect God's upright word and faithfulness, turning potential despair into joyful trust?
3. How does recognizing God's "holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace" free men from leadership based on performance and toward grace-empowered service?
4. Peter's impulse to build "dwellings" is corrected by the Father's voice: "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him." What does this teach men about balancing action with obedient listening in leadership?