

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY - B - AUGUST 30, 2015

"BE DOERS OF THE WORD AND NOT HEARERS ONLY, DELUDING YOURSELVES"

JUST DO IT! EVERYONE I PRESUME, KNOWS WHO MADE THAT PHRASE FAMOUS AROUND THE WORLD....

NIKE AND THERE SWOOSH!

BUT DO YOU KNOW THE ORIGINS OF THE SLOGAN - HOW IT CAME TO BE?

EVIDENTLY, THE AD AGENCY COINED THE TERM AT A MEETING IN 1988...

THE CREATOR, DAN WIEDEN, CREDITS THE LAST WORDS OF GARY

GILMORE, WHO WAS EXECUTED BY A FIRING SQUAD IN UTAH IN 1977...

HE SAID RIGHT BEFORE BEING SHOT BY FIVE MEN, "JUST DO IT"

PERHAPS THAT'S APPROPRIATEBECAUSE I OFTEN FEEL LIKE I'D

RATHER FACE A FIRING SQUAD THAN BEGIN MY CARDIO REHAB AT THE REC PLEX.....

"JUST DO IT"

SOMETIMES WE FEEL THAT WAY WHENEVER WE LEAVE OUR COMFORT ZONE - DON'T WE? LIKE WE'D RATHER FACE A FIRING SQUAD....

BUT WE HAVE TO LEAVE OUR COMFORT ZONE IF WE ARE TO BE "DOERS OF THE WORD AND NOT JUST HEARERS" ONLY, DELUDING OURSELVES...

ANOTHER WAY OF SAYING THIS IS SOMETHING RICHARD ROHR SAYS - IT WAS ON HIS DAILY EMAIL ENTRY THIS PAST WEEK.....

"WE DON'T THINK OURSELVES INTO A NEW WAY OF LIVING; WE LIVE OURSELVES INTO A NEW WAY OF THINKING"

I WILL FORWARD THE WEBSITE FOR THE CENTER OF ACTION AND

CONTEMPLATION TO GREG AND HAVE HIM SEND THE INFO OUT TO EVERYONE.....YOU MIGHT FIND IT HELPFUL ...IT IS CHALLENGING I'M USING IN MY HOMILY TODAY A LOT OF WHAT HE SAID THERE THIS PAST WEEK.....

HE GOES ON TO SAY THAT EDUCATION THEORY HAS COME TO RECOGNIZE THAT LECTURES (I.E. HOMILIES) AND READING ARE AMONG THE LEAST EFFECTIVE WAYS OF LEARNING..

READ THERE - JUST "HEARERS OF THE WORD ONLY"

"LECTURES AND READING ARE HIGHLY PASSIVE, INDIVIDUALISTIC, DO NOT NECESSARILY INTEGRATE THE HEAD WITH THE HEART OR BODY AND LEAVE BOTH OUR EGO (AND OUR SHADOW SELF) IN THEIR WELL-DEFENDED POSITIONS, VITURALLY UNTOUCHED"

"AS LONG AS OUR EGO SELF IS IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT, NOTHING NEW OR CHALLENGING IS GOING TO HAPPEN. REMEMBER OUR EGO IS COMMITTED TO NOT CHANGING, AND IS HIGHLY DEFESNIVE BY ITS VERY NATURE" -

READ THERE - HEARERS OF THE WORD ONLY, DELUDING OURSELVES "OUR SHADOW SELF RELIES ENTIRELY UPON DELUSION AND DENIAL. ONLY THE WORLD OF PRACTICAL RELATIONSHIPS EXPOSES BOTH OF THESE"

HENCE, THE IMPORTANCE OF ENGAGING IN RELATIONSHIP/COMMUNITY SO WE NEED TO ENGAGE IN HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE, EMOTIONAL RISK-TAKING, MOVING OUTSIDE OUR COMFORT ZONES, WITH DIFFERENT

PEOPLE THAN OUR USUAL FLATTERING FRIENDS....

*THAT IS WHY IT IS SO IMPORTANT HOW WELCOMING WE ARE AS A
COMMUNITY - HOW MUCH WE INCLUDE THE STRANGER, THE NEW
PERSON IN OUR MIDST....*

*WHEN I LOOK AT MY OWN LIFE IN TERMS OF GOING OUT OF MY
COMFORT ZONE....*

*I REALIZE MY LIFE IS PROTECTED, COMFORTABLE, AND HEADY -
LOTS AND LOTS OF EDUCATION-SO, I'M ALSO TALKING TO MYSELF HERE
I BELIEVE THAT WAS ONE REASON I ASK TO LEAVE UD AND GO TO MIAMI
VALLEY HOSPITAL.....*

*IT WAS MY FIRST VENTURE OUTSIDE OF A CATHOLIC AND MARIANIST
INSTITUTION...*

*I LEFT THE CATHOLIC AND COLLEGE AGE POPULATION FOR THE
GENERAL POPULATION.....MORE ADULT - I LEARNED A LOT
A DOSE OF REALITY - OUTSIDE OF MY COMFORT ZONE*

*I THINK IT WAS PART OF THE REASON I AGREED TO BECOME THE
DIRECTOR OF OUR MERCY SIENA COMMUNITY -*

WAY OUTSIDE OF MY COMFORT ZONE...NURSING AND ASST. LIVING.

*I THINK THAT WAS ONE REASON I AGREED TO COME TO QAC.....
ALSO OUTSIDE OF MY COMFORT ZONE....*

*THAT IS ALSO A REASON WHY I AM BLESSED, EVEN HONORED TO BE
LIVING WITH YOUNG MARIANISTS FROM TOGO, IVORY COAST, INDIA AND
HAITI.....*

ALTHOUGH THEY ARE CERTAINLY MORE OUTSIDE THEIR COMFORT ZONE THAN I AM....

*IT DEFINITELY MAKES ME EXPERIENCE LIFE IN A DIFFERENT WAY
I'VE PROBABLY EATEN MORE RICE IN THE PAST TWO YEARS THAN MY ENTIRE LIFE....*

WHAT ABOUT YOUR COMFORT ZONE....????

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU STEPPED OUT OF IT???

ESPECIALLY, AS A DOER OF THE WORD???

SURELY, THAT IS ONE OF THE THINGS WE LOVE ABOUT FRANCIS, OUR POPE.....

IT SEEMS LIKE HE IS ALWAYS STEPPING OUT OF HIS COMFORT ZONE - DOING THE WORD!

e.g. WASHING THE FEET OF WOMEN, INCLUDING MUSLIMS; CALLING PEOPLE ON THE PHONE, VISITING IMMIGRANTS, THE HOMELESS, LIVING IN A SIMPLE APARTMENT....

AND CHALLENGING US TO DO THE SAME....

*HE IS CLEARLY A "DOER OF THE WORD AND NOT A HEARER ONLY",
RIGHT?*

THIS COMMUNITY IS CLEARLY OPEN TO REACHING OUT BEYOND ITS COMFORT ZONE, E.G. "BEING THE CHURCH" THE LAST COUPLE YEARS, THE GENEROUS RESPONSE TO THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN, THE WAY WE REACH OUT TO THE ILL AND THE MOURNING AMONG US...

EVIDENTLY, ACCORDING TO ROHR, FRANCIS OF ASSISI TOLD HIS FIRST

FRIARS THAT "YOU ONLY KNOW AS MUCH AS YOU DO"...

HIS EMPHASIS WAS ON ACTION, PRACTICE AND LIFESTYLE...

FRANCIS EMPHASIZED FOLLOWING AND LOVING THE HUMANITY

OF JESUS.....NOT JUST THE WORSHIPING OF HIS DIVINITY

AFTER ALL, JESUS SAID "COME FOLLOW ME", NOT COME AND ADORE ME

WE TEND TO BELIEVE THAT CHURCH IS ABOUT BELIEVING CERTAIN

THINGS AND ATTENDING SERVICES.....

BUT THAT RARELY LEADS TO RADICALLY NEW GROWTH...

GROWTH HAPPENS WHEN WE ARE CHALLENGED TO "TRY THIS"...

SO LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU TO TRY SOMETHING NEW THIS WEEK -

MOVE OUTSIDE YOUR COMFORT ZONE, MAKE A NEW CONTACT, WALK OR

BIKE INSTEAD OF DRIVE, MAKE A FRIEND FROM ANOTHER RACE OR

CLASS, VISIT THE JAIL, ATTEND ANOTHER CHURCH SERVICE (DURING

THE WEEK).....

PRAYER IS INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT, BUT WE MUST BE DOERS OF THE

WORD AND NOT HEARERS ONLY, DELUDING OURSELVES.....

SO, JUST DO IT!!!