

January 30th 2022 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time– Year C – Luke 4:21-30

²¹Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” ²²All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” ²³He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” ²⁴And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown. ²⁵But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” ²⁸When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read and re-read – out loud and slowly the Gospel. ➤ Meditate - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pray - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition ➤ Action – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do)
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In this weeks gospel Jesus invites the people of his home town to come to the truth of themselves and to stop hiding behind the shelter of their groups. He tells us to be aware of thinking we are the chosen people just because we belong to a special group. Being part of a group says nothing about our personal worth. If we settle for group identity it stops us facing the truth of ourselves. Our personal motives are what counts and are known only to ourselves and God. Jesus also shows us God's inclusive ways - he includes all people in his blessings.

When have you been challenged to think in new ways enabling you to stop excluding some people from your thoughts and concerns?

Prayer:

Lord thank you for the people in our lives who show us that some people from outside our group are every bit as good as we are and perhaps even better.

Forgive us Lord for the times we thought as the ' chosen ones' we are better than other people and close our hearts to their goodness and great qualities from which we could learn a great deal.

Help us Lord to be like Jesus and not allow the anger of people deter us in our mission of bringing his love to all. We ask the Holy Spirit to enlighten us and fill us with his love.

