Reflection
July 6, 2022,
Hosea 10: 1-3, 7-8,12
Psalms 105: 2-7
Matthew 10:1-7
Gail Addis

We just heard the story of Jesus calling his disciples by name. Take a minute and think about your own call, when and how you sensed it. Did it happen all at once or gradually over time? Mine was over a period of years. What about yours? …take a minute.

However, our calls happened, like the disciples, Jesus set his gaze upon us in love and invited us to be in the world as he was in the world---in mission. We will never know what Jesus saw in that motley crew of disciples, or in us, but his love extended beyond their/our frailties and limitations to make them/us what we were called to be-witness to the love, inclusiveness, mercy and generosity of God.

What does that original call look like now? What is the call when we are in relationship with someone whose personality grates us the wrong way? What is the call when someone acts like they are in charge and their way is the right or only way? What is the call when someone doesn't listen and must have the last word? What is the call when misunderstandings happen? What is the call in every day, real life?

All these smaller calls happen and need to be kept in the larger perspective and context of our call to make love visible in our world through our prayer and action on behalf of justice.

Saying yes to the call of each day is only possible if our gaze and hearts are set upon Jesus as his is set upon us. The prayer attributed to Fr. Pedro Arupe was actually written by Joseph Whelan, SJ and seems a good summary.

FALL IN LOVE

Nothing is more practical than finding God, than falling in love in a quite absolute, final way.

What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination, will affect everything?

It will decide what will get you out of bed in the morning, what you do with your evenings, how you spend your weekends,

what you read, whom you know, what breaks your heart,

and what amazes you with joy and gratitude.

Fall in love, stay in love, and it will decide everything.