(Food for thought: Gospel: Mark 3: 20-35

WHERE ARE WE?

"Where are we?"

The Genesis story in the 1st Reading sums up the human situation then and now; our human existence is broken, relationships are destroyed by blame and mistrust. We all yearn for the Garden of Eden - how it was before sin was introduced into the world. And we all have a sense of how life should be, how we desire it to be. But we are always confronted with the harsh realities of how it really is.

The focal point of the story is when God enters the scene, looking for us and asks a very important question: "Where are you?" However, this is also a question that implies: "Who are you?" "Where did you go?" and "Where are you going?"

Pope Francis' message is a simple one – always based on the Gospel. We are one family sent by Jesus to create a special environment – an environment of understanding, of care and compassion. We are to create the possibility of others becoming present to themselves; and we are to become a centre of communion, a community where we cease to be anonymous, where we recognize one another as sisters and brothers, loving one another and caring for one another.

We have been chosen by name and called to create an environment in which healing takes place, where one is forgiven and reconciled, where care for one another is fostered, where one feels a sense of belonging.



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