



By [Glenn CJ Byer, MA SLD](#)

If last week's readings began the preparations for Lent, today we come face to face with the requirements for leading life more in keeping with the will of God. The first reading today makes it plain and simple, "Share your bread...shelter the oppressed....clothe the naked." This is how we are to live. The Psalm joins this line of thought, reminding us to be lights that shine in the darkness through acts of justice and mercy. Then in the Gospel, we hear the famous passage from the Sermon on the Mount about being light for the world and salt for the earth. Faith, it seems, must be something lived, something done, something acted upon. That is how the power of God will be made known through us in the world.

Perhaps this is also what Saint Paul is talking about when he reminds the people of Corinth that he did not come with eloquence, but armed only with the power of God. Just as he let God act through his work, so God can be made manifest through our lives, so long as we do not let the cares of the world distract us from the only thing that really matters: the love of God in Christ Jesus.

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