

Gospel XXIV SUNDAY OT
11th September 2022. Cycle C



TO WELCOME AND TO FORGIVE



SETTING.

Lord, I look for You, sometimes as a lost sheep, as a searching woman, or as a son who returns home, always needing your loving embrace that recovers, helps to find me or I enjoy as a daughter in the lucky encounter of the family that is always by your side. .

To walk, to celebrate, to thank what has been received.

To be, to live, to be grateful for the little, the simple, the necessary.

How many times my life is debated in extremes that seek to find You.

Help me rediscover the joy of forgiveness that dignifies and recreates the encounter.

SONG. IN SPITE OF EVERYTHING - TERE LARRAIN

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2M9fFH7kZJ8>

GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE: Lk 15:1-32

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

So He told them this parable: “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and

go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his Friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, here is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

And He said, "There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them.

Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' "

And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.

And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.'

But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

LET US DEEPEN THE GOLPEL.

We had already read and meditated on the third parable, that of the prodigal son, so here we will not find, this time, more than a few observations on the set of three parables since, this time, they are proposed to us in a single reading.

The first observation is suggested to us by the Pharisees themselves: "This man welcomes sinners, and eats with them!" In his mouth, this is a reproach; however, for the evangelist and for ourselves, as well as for Paul in the letter to Timothy (today's second reading), He is, without a doubt, a subject of admiration! Why? Because we would not dare, neither one nor the other, to pretend to be among the ninety-nine righteous of the first parable. Each one of us knows that this sinner invites us to give joy to heaven with our conversion. Let us understand each other: the word "conversion" does not mean a change of religion, but rather a radical change of direction: **we had turned our backs on God and found ourselves facing Him.** Well, we can tell ourselves that every time we have made the decision to turn around in the face of evil, we have made heaven happy.

Joy is the most noticeable feature in these three parables: God's joy, of course. We hear Zephaniah when he speaks of the "dance" of God: "The Lord your God is in your midst... You will feel in you his joy and his joy, God will renew you with his love; He will dance for you, as on feast days." (Zeph 3:17-18). And why so much joy when we enter the path of reconciliation? Because to God we are as precious as the apple of his eye.

Indeed, God watches over us to the point of going Himself to look for the lost sheep, because He knows that it can never come alone. God watches over us to the point of turning the house upside down to find the lost coin. And, if not Himself in search of the prodigal son, it is out of respect for his freedom: but, despite everything, God watches! And He watches over to the point of waiting, in the doorway, for the ungrateful person who went far away and, even more, when he returns He welcomes him with a party without wondering about his son's true feelings: because, without a problem, we can ask serious questions about the sincerity of the son's repentance. And later, He pleads with the eldest son because, for the Father, the party is not complete if one of the sons is missing.

Last observation: Jesus draws our attention to our own experience: "Who among you would not go looking for his lost sheep...?" Which means that, in some way, we resemble God, which is not strange since we have been created in his image: and this is, after all, our vocation, is it not?

CLUES FOR THE PRAYER.

1. What does the text say? (reading)
2. What is God telling me with this text? (meditation)
3. How do I dialogue with God with what the text tells me? (prayer)
4. How do I feel the presence of God in my life? (contemplation)
5. How do I put into practice the message of the word of God in my real life? (action)

AMBIENTAL MUSIC. Fridrik Karlsson - Time for Chillout

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UX15bLx_iPY

YOU INSPIRE MY LIFE IN THE PERSPECTIVE P

PERSPECTIVE OF FORGIVENESS

Walking open to grace
that God pours out every day.
Translating it into gestures and
words in life
Being a friend, being kind.
Being father and mother.
Being a brother, being a friend.
In the every day
making the meeting possible
that lifts the soul
and caress the fly
in good relations.
How many times my life
walks away from You
wasting the talents
that I have.
Everything experienced
from the perspective
of forgiveness changes.
Living from the perspective
of forgiveness
is to be grateful
for what you have.
Living from the perspective
of forgiveness
is to open your eyes
and interiorize what is close.

Living from the perspective
of forgiveness
is to accept everything
and live servant leadership.
Living from the perspective
of forgiveness
is to consider
the various points of view
and compose similarities.
Living from the perspective
of forgiveness
is to harmonize the notes
in soft melodies
and expressive choreography.
Living from the perspective
of forgiveness
is to welcome our brethren
the poorest and being with them.
Living from the perspective
of forgiveness
is to rejoice and breathe,
dreaming in bright colors,
the joy of being with You.
May we know how to welcome,
live and celebrate your
forgiveness that enhances life.

SONG. I PLACE MY LIFE IN YOUR HANDS - Luis Guitarra

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2P-XxlfAoGk>



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