

XXV SUNDAY GOSPEL
18th of September 2022. Cycle C



INVITED TO UNDERSTAND



SETTING

We continue making the way; we continue to make the meeting possible, putting the gifts at stake.

It is important to arrive, to make a stop along the way, to find ourselves alone, in the intimacy of silence, in which everything becomes simple, close, friendly; moment of sincerity and desire to share, things, experiences, dreams, what fills me, what worries me and above all, what excites me and drives me to move forward, looking at the infinite horizon, where we meet again everyone.

May your word descend to the heart and water my life, strengthening it in what is most important and in what you give me as a value. May you continue to search for the essence of life, the answers to deep questions. Walk with me and I will walk with you.

SONG. Lord I am glad – Wtsjst

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=51D7D4nlrFI>

GOSPEL – Luke 16, 1-13

"Then Jesus said to his disciples: "There was a rich man who had a manager, and brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him: "What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer. "Then the manager said to himself: "What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their home. So summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first: "How much do you owe my master?" He replied: "One hundred jugs of olive oil." He said to him: "Take your bill, sit down quickly and make it fifty." Then he asked another: "and you, how much do you owe?" He answered: "One hundred containers of wheat." He said to him "Take your bill and make it eighty." And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are shrewder in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell to you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that, when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes .whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will trust you with the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? "No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth"

We deepen the Gospel

This text reserves a huge surprise for us: It seems that Jesus praises cheaters! "This manager is not honest; the master praises him, because he said he was very talented." But the people were not mistaken when they heard Jesus because he described him as a "cheater", that is to say, a swindler and in those times as in ours, honesty was part of elementary morality. Jesus' intention is in no way to go against elementary morality. On the other hand, Jesus carefully points out that the teacher praises this man for his skill. If Jesus uses this somewhat provocative example,

it is to make us reflect on something that is very serious, and it is precisely the last sentence that tells us very clearly: we can choose, and it is urgent to do so: “You can choose between God and Money.”

And Jesus presents a whole series of oppositions: between the children of this world and the children of light, between a small matter and a great matter, between Money that deceives and true good, between foreign goods and our own goods. All these oppositions have only one objective: to make us discover that wealth is a deception and that devoting one's life to "earning money" is a false path. It is as serious as the idolatry that the prophets denounced so forcefully. Obviously, the phrase “You cannot serve God and wealth at the same time” has a religious meaning: There is only one God, so do not make idols for yourselves, because all kinds of idolatry converts you into slaves.

Wealth deceives in two ways: first, it makes us believe that it assures us of happiness, but a day will come when it will be necessary for us to leave everything. Wealth also deceives us when we believe that it belongs to us absolutely. Jesus does not push us to despise money but to put it at the service of the Kingdom, that is, of others.

In this phrase “to be trustworthy with cheating money”, the word “trust” is very important: God has confidence in us; This wealth has been entrusted to us by Him, we are managers, responsible for what is entrusted to us... all our riches, all our wineskins, have been entrusted to us so that we can share them so that we can transform them into happiness for all those who around us. Basically, the moral of the story could be written like this: Choose God, absolutely, and put at the service of the Kingdom the ability that you would use to earn money. The children of light know that wealth is a small matter and that the important matter is the Kingdom. The children of light do not "serve" wealth as if it were a divinity. The children of light put it at the service of the Kingdom.

Clues for the Prayers

1. What does the text say? (Reading)
2. What God is telling me through 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 the practice the message of the word of God in my real life? (Action)

MUSIC. Kendra Springer - Hint of Dawn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lmu1Zq7HEuM>

YOU INSPIRE MY DREAMS

ALL THAT WE ARE

Everything is yours.
You invite us to be a dynamic
not to stand still
to follow in the gap,
to travel to the new paths.
You invite us to follow you,
and not to go in another way
quick and simple,
the one of those who follows
you by conviction.
you invite us to walk
disruptively,
provocative, questioning.
You invite us to be
side by side,
in every reality.
You invite us to be faithful,
in the small,
to be able to be
also in big.
You invite us to come closer
to life, in all its moments.

You invite us to control,
impulses and emotions,
that tire and sometimes discourage.
You invite us to open
to recreate, to start again,
to knock on the door again,
to wait, to spread smiles,
in continuous doses
to want and love what we do.
You invite us to give ourselves,
to all, to the brothers,
to the women, to the elderly,
and the children.
you invite us to become
clever, fast.
You invite us not to get lost
in unsustainable and perishable
nonsense.
You invite us to be
like young people, spontaneous,
liquids, friends of all and for
all.
You invite us to carry,
just put it on.

SONG. HERE I AM – Joel Lasrado

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HoE-q8bSrzM>



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