

Family Night – Ordinary Time Week 23

Sunday September 05, 2010



Sunday Readings:

Wisdom 9:13-18b

Who can know the intentions of God?

Philemon 9-10,12-17

Receive all people as your brother.

Luke 14:25-33

Jesus says discipleship costs everything.

The Cost of Discipleship

WHAT'S THE POINT?

Jesus tells us that in comparison to our dedication to Him, all earthly relationships should amount to nothing. If he is not our first thought and action, we are not disciples. Jesus doesn't make discipleship out to be an easy thing. It involves carrying his cross and putting all else aside. Priests and religious have taken vows of discipleship, leaving families to take up the cross and giving up their possessions. There are many people who have responded in this way to Jesus' call. They have counted the cost and have been willing to pay the price. In our lives also the hindrances of the world can be exchanged for eternal life in Christ.

Opening Prayer: Our Father or Prayer for the Pope

Family Activity

1. Choose a project that one of the children has shown an interest in doing, like putting a model together or changing the look of a room. Plan out what it will cost and how much work it will take and then see if he/she is still willing to tackle the project.
2. Let the children count the money they have in their piggy bank. Encourage them to give some or all of it in the church offering or to the poor.

Catechism Connection

No. 2544 "The precept of detachment from riches is obligatory for entrance into the kingdom of heaven."

Quiz

What must a man consider before he builds a tower?

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Saintly Examples: St. Ephrem

St. Ephrem was born in Mesopotamia at the beginning of the 4th century to a pagan family. Because St. Ephrem was drawn to Christianity, his father forced him to leave home. He was then baptized a Christian and went on to be a famous teacher, known for his scholarship in the Scriptures. He was ordained a deacon and fought to uphold the true Catholic doctrine against the many heresies of his day. He was one of the first to introduce the singing of hymns into the Church. Besides hymns he wrote many other works which were translated into other languages. He lived a simple life, dwelling in a cave near Edessa (in Iraq). He is known as a Doctor of the Church. (Saint for September 5: Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta)

Let's Talk About It: Discussion Questions

1. Can you relate the vows of religious life to today's gospel reading? (Religious take vows of obedience and chastity, and some orders take a vow of poverty.)
2. Have you ever considered religious life--priest, deacon, sister or brother?
3. What have you given up to follow Jesus?
4. What does it mean to take up the cross of Christ?

Family Commitment

(Fill in your commitment here)

Snack

Make cross-shaped cookies or cut fruit rollups or toast into the shape of a cross.

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us to follow you not only to the Breaking of Bread but also to the drinking of the Cup of Your Passion. Make us worthy to suffer for Your name, Jesus, our Crucified and Risen Lord and Savior, now and forever. Amen.

Quiz Answer

The cost. (Luke 14:28)