

The Gospel for All Ages

Family Catechesis



30th Sunday in Ordinary Time • October 27, 2019

Sunday Readings: Sirach 35:12–14, 16–18; 2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18; Luke 18:9–14

Weekly Discussion Questions

For the Parish Bulletin

Life Question: How do I measure what I or others deserve?

Gospel Question: How does your prayer insulate you from others? How does prayer connect you with others?

LIFE AND GOSPEL QUESTIONS BY AGE LEVEL

Exploring the Sunday Readings (Adults)

How does your love leave the door open for those around you to respond?

Visit exploringthesundayreadings.com

Visions (Grades 7–8)

Life Question: What do you practice faithfully?

Gospel Question: Why does Jesus praise the tax collector rather than the Pharisee?

Venture (Grades 4–6)

Life Question: What do you think being “the greatest” means to you?

Gospel Question: What is good about the tax collector’s attitude toward God?

Good News (Grades 2–3)

Life Question: What are putdown words? What are praise words?

Gospel Question: What would you like to say to the Pharisee?

Promise (Grades K–1)

Life Question: Whom do you think is important?

Gospel Question: What is a way you are special?

Seeds (Preschool)

Life Question: Who are children of God?

Gospel Question: Whom does Jesus think is best?

Family Corner

About the Gospel

A Pharisee and a tax collector pray in the Temple. The Pharisee prays to God by listing his many virtues while the tax collector begs for God’s mercy for his sins. Jesus praises the tax collector for his humility and admonishes the Pharisee’s self-righteousness.

Visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings to read this Sunday’s Scripture.

In Church

Practice the virtue of humility by giving God special thanks for one of your talents.

Family Prayer

Lord, help us to remember to do good deeds in your name. Amen.

Question of the Week

What does being “the greatest” mean to you?



Rincón de la Familia

Acerca del Evangelio

Un fariseo y un recolector de impuestos oraban en el Templo. El fariseo oraba a Dios mencionando todas sus virtudes, mientras que el recaudador de impuestos le rogaba a Dios que tuviera misericordia de él. Jesús elogió al recolector de impuestos por su humildad y reprende la arrogancia del fariseo.

Visita www.usccb.org/bible/lecturas para leer las lecturas de este domingo.

En la Iglesia

Practica la virtud de la humildad dándole gracias a Dios por uno de tus talentos.

Oración en familia

Señor, ayúdanos a recordar hacer obras buenas en tu nombre. Amén.

Pregunta de la semana

¿Qué significa para ti “ser el más importante”?




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Gathering Ritual

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 Play and sing “Yes, Lord, I Believe” (*Promise/Good News Music CDs, CD-2, #26*). Lyrics are available to download and print at gospelweeklies.com/lyrics.

All: Let us begin in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Leader: Loving God, you are our center, our anchor in our busy lives, our friend. Help us always look up to you and never look down on one another.

All: Amen.

First Reading

Reader: A reading from the Book of Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18

Give to God as God has given to you; give as generously as you can. The Holy One is the one who repays; God will repay seven times.

God is a God of justice who knows no favorites. Though God will not favor the poor, but God listens to the prayer of those who have been wronged. God will hear the prayer of the orphan and the widow as she tells her story.

Gospel Reading

Leader: Let us prepare to listen to the Gospel. Open our hearts to the needs of those who struggle among us.

All: Let us open our hands and hearts to act with care and justice toward all.

Reader: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke. Use the Gospel in reader parts from Venture or Visions.

Gospel Reflection

God doesn't create people as nobodies and somebodies. God creates all of us as somebodies. All of us are made in God's image and likeness.

Like the Pharisees in Sunday's Gospel, we sometimes put others down in order to be somebodies ourselves. We make fun of other people in order to fit in ourselves or to make sure nobody puts us down.

The Pharisee in the Gospel looks down on the tax collector. Many people didn't like tax collectors because they worked for the Romans and sometimes cheated people. The Pharisee thinks he is great because he isn't like the tax collector. He isn't dishonest and greedy. He doesn't work with the Romans. He is faithful to all the religious laws.

Jesus ends his story by telling us, “The tax collector went away right with God.” We don't have to put others down to be somebodies to God. Everyone who wants to be popular with God is popular with God. Everybody is in.

Let us go into our sessions and discuss how this Gospel applies to each one of us.

Closing Prayer

Leader: Let us pray some of Psalm 34 together. God hears the cry of the poor.

All: God hears the cry of the poor.

Leader: I will bless God at all times. Praise for God is always on my lips. My soul boasts about God. Let the humble hear and be glad.

All: God hears the cry of the poor.

Leader: The eyes of the Holy One are on the just. God's ears are open to their cry. When those who are upright cry for help, God hears and rescues them from their trouble.

All: God hears the cry of the poor.

Leader: God is close to the brokenhearted; God saves those crushed in spirit. The Holy One ransoms the lives of those who are God's servants. Those who take refuge in God shall not be condemned.

All: God hears the cry of the poor. Amen.