



32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

1 Kings 17:10-16
Ps 146:7-10
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44

Monday Nov. 9 Lateran Basilica

Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12
Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9
1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17
John 2:13-22

Tuesday Nov. 10 St. Leo the Great

Wisdom 2:23-3:9
Ps 34:2-3, 16-19
Luke 17:7-10

Wednesday Nov. 11 St. Martin of Tours

Wisdom 6:1-11
Ps 82:3-4, 6-7
Luke 17:11-19

Thursday Nov. 12 St. Josaphat

Wisdom 7:22b-8:1
Is 119:89-91, 130, 135, 175
Luke 17:20-25

Friday Nov. 13 St. Frances Cabrini

Wisdom 13:1-9
Ps 19:2-5ab
Luke 17:26-37

Saturday Nov. 14

Wisdom 18:14-16; 19:6-9
Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43
Luke 18:1-8

Following Jesus requires a tremendous amount of trust, because he often takes us to unexpected places that require new growth, sacrifices, and reaching beyond the boundaries of what's familiar and comfortable.

Consider the widows in the first reading and the gospel reading. How could they give what common sense says they could not afford? Did they know with total certainty that God would take care of their needs? No. So they gave all they had because they were in love with God.

Trust is a sign of genuine love – that is, if the one whom we are choosing to trust is God.

We can love others more freely and generously if we trust God to help us through the difficulties that occur when people prove themselves untrustworthy. Our freedom to love others unconditionally is not based upon how safe we are with them; it's based on how safe we are with God.

Sometimes doing good to those who are difficult to love must include "tough love", which asserts boundaries that they are not allowed to cross. Remember what Jesus did: Until Good Friday, Jesus always walked away from his persecutors. Following Christ means that we have to watch for and trust God's timing on speaking up versus walking away.



Sometimes doing good to those who are difficult to love must include enabling them to reap what they sow so that they begin to understand their need to repent. Think about it: Does God clean up our messes? What gets learned if someone else does the damage control?

Loving others always includes sacrificing ourselves and relying on God to comfort us, heal us, restore us, and bless us. We can trust God for this. Our jar of whatever we pour out to others for the sake of love will never go empty.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. Jesus cares about you much more than anyone else can. Are you willing to look to him for the fullness of love that you need? What makes you feel unsafe with God?
2. What needs healing or correction in your thinking so that you can be free to sit on Daddy-God's lap and feel secure and fully loved?
3. Describe a time when you gave more than you thought you could give: more money, more love, more time, more patience – more of anything. What motivated you to be so generous?
4. What did you learn from it?
5. What were the end results?