

Session Seven (Year A)

Sunday November 12, 2017

Come Holy Ghost

Pentecost Prayer

Kiss of Peace

Questions? Thoughts?

Theme: Repentance and Forgiveness

Mark 1

14 . . . Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God:

15 "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

Matthew 6

14 If you forgive others their transgressions, your heavenly Father will forgive you.

15 But if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your transgressions.

Questions for the Candidates

- What do you think it means to forgive?
- How do you forgive?
- Do you ever have to seek forgiveness?

The Ten Commandments

Not this session

The Beatitudes

Matthew 5

8 **Blessed are the clean of heart,** for they will see God.

Jesus used to make the point that God is concerned about our hearts, our inward motivation. That is the place where God looks. He is concerned for the inward and moral rather than the outward and ceremonial. He wants us to have “pure” hearts. The word for “pure” means “unmixed, unadulterated, unalloyed,” like pure, clean water.

In a world where the pressure to conform is very great, it means to be free from masks and free from having different roles for different occasions. It means being ourselves as God intended, instead of play-acting; living life in the open and letting people see right through us. The pure in heart are those who are completely sincere in their relationships. They are those who are totally open and have nothing to hide.

Jesus promises us that God will reveal Himself to people like that and one day they will see God face to face. Deception blinds us, but purity opens our eyes to see God. The merciful hold nothing against their brothers and sisters. The pure in heart allow others to see them as they are.

- from *Challenging Lifestyle*, by Nicky Gumbel

Psalms 24

3 Who may go up the mountain of the LORD? Who can stand in his holy place?

4 The clean of hand and pure of heart, who are not devoted to idols, who have not sworn falsely.

Mark 7

14 He summoned the crowd again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand.

15 Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile."

17 When he got home away from the crowd his disciples questioned him about the parable.

18 He said to them, "Are even you likewise without understanding? Do you not realize that everything that goes into a person from outside cannot defile,

19 since it enters not the heart but the stomach and passes out into the latrine?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.)

20 "But what comes out of a person, that is what defiles.

21 From within people, from their hearts, come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder,

22 adultery, greed, malice, deceit, licentiousness, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, folly.

23 All these evils come from within and they defile."

1 John 3

- 1 See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.
- 2 Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.
- 3 Everyone who has this hope based on him makes himself pure, as he is pure.

Saints

St. John Vianney

Saint John Vianney is best known as the Curé d'Ars, the little French town where he was pastor. Saint John had great trouble with his studies and almost did not get ordained. After he became the pastor in Ars however, he gained great fame as a confessor, hearing confessions sometimes 12 hours a day. He is the patron saint of parish priests.

St. John Vianney, you dedicated yourself to the care of souls in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Help me have the same care for my own soul. Amen.

Sacraments

The Catechism of the Catholic Church, from the Precepts of the Church

- 2041** The precepts of the Church are set in the context of a moral life bound to and nourished by liturgical life. the obligatory character of these positive laws decreed by the pastoral authorities is meant to guarantee to the faithful the indispensable minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort, in the growth in love of God and neighbor.
- 2042** . . . The second precept ("You shall confess your sins at least once a year.") ensures preparation for the Eucharist by the reception of the sacrament of reconciliation, which continues Baptism's work of conversion and forgiveness.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church on Reconciliation

- 1486** The forgiveness of sins committed after Baptism is conferred by a particular sacrament called the sacrament of conversion, confession, penance, or reconciliation.
- 1487** The sinner wounds God's honor and love, his own human dignity as a man called to be a son of God, and the spiritual well-being of the Church, of which each Christian ought to be a living stone.

- 1488** To the eyes of faith no evil is graver than sin and nothing has worse consequences for sinners themselves, for the Church, and for the whole world.
- 1489** To return to communion with God after having lost it through sin is a process born of the grace of God who is rich in mercy and solicitous for the salvation of men. One must ask for this precious gift for oneself and for others.
- 1490** The movement of return to God, called conversion and repentance, entails sorrow for and abhorrence of sins committed, and the firm purpose of sinning no more in the future. Conversion touches the past and the future and is nourished by hope in God's mercy.
- 1491** The sacrament of Penance is a whole consisting in three actions of the penitent and the priest's absolution. The penitent's acts are repentance, confession or disclosure of sins to the priest, and the intention to make reparation and do works of reparation.
- 1492** Repentance (also called contrition) must be inspired by motives that arise from faith. If repentance arises from love of charity for God, it is called "perfect" contrition; if it is founded on other motives, it is called "imperfect."
- 1493** One who desires to obtain reconciliation with God and with the Church, must confess to a priest all the unconfessed grave sins he remembers after having carefully examined his conscience. The confession of venial faults, without being necessary in itself, is nevertheless strongly recommended by the Church.
- 1494** The confessor proposes the performance of certain acts of "satisfaction" or "penance" to be performed by the penitent in order to repair the harm caused by sin and to re-establish habits befitting a disciple of Christ.
- 1495** Only priests who have received the faculty of absolving from the authority of the Church can forgive sins in the name of Christ.
- 1496** The spiritual effects of the sacrament of Penance are:
- reconciliation with God by which the penitent recovers grace;
 - reconciliation with the Church;
 - remission of the eternal punishment incurred by mortal sins;
 - remission, at least in part, of temporal punishments resulting from sin;
 - peace and serenity of conscience, and spiritual consolation;
 - an increase of spiritual strength for the Christian battle.
- 1497** Individual and integral confession of grave sins followed by absolution remains the only ordinary means of reconciliation with God and with the Church.
- 1498** Through indulgences the faithful can obtain the remission of temporal punishment resulting from sin for themselves and also for the souls in Purgatory.

John 20

- 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."
- 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the holy Spirit.
- 23 Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

Psalms 32

- 1 Happy the sinner whose fault is removed, whose sin is forgiven.
- 2 Happy those to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no deceit.
- 3 As long as I kept silent, my bones wasted away; I groaned all the day.
- 4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength withered as in dry summer heat.
- 5 Then I declared my sin to you; my guilt I did not hide. I said, "I confess my faults to the LORD," and you took away the guilt of my sin.
- 6 Thus should all your faithful pray in time of distress. Though flood waters threaten, they will never reach them.
- 7 You are my shelter; from distress you keep me; with safety you ring me round. Selah
- 8 I will instruct you and show you the way you should walk, give you counsel and watch over you.
- 9 Do not be senseless like horses or mules; with bit and bridle their temper is curbed, else they will not come to you.
- 10 Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.
- 11 Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you just; exult, all you upright of heart.

1 John 1

- 8 If we say, "We are without sin," we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- 9 If we acknowledge our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from every wrongdoing.

Luke 7

- 36 A Pharisee invited him to dine with him, and he entered the Pharisee's house and reclined at table.
- 37 Now there was a sinful woman in the city who learned that he was at table in the house of the Pharisee. Bringing an alabaster flask of ointment,
- 38 she stood behind him at his feet weeping and began to bathe his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them, and anointed them with the ointment.
- 39 When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, that she is a sinner."
- 40 Jesus said to him in reply, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Tell me, teacher," he said.
- 41 "Two people were in debt to a certain creditor; one owed five hundred days' wages and the other owed fifty.
- 42 Since they were unable to repay the debt, he forgave it for both. Which of them will love him more?"
- 43 Simon said in reply, "The one, I suppose, whose larger debt was forgiven." He said to him, "You have judged rightly."
- 44 Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? When I entered your house, you did not give me water for my feet, but she has bathed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair.
- 45 You did not give me a kiss, but she has not ceased kissing my feet since the time I entered.
- 46 You did not anoint my head with oil, but she anointed my feet with ointment.
- 47 So I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven; hence, she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little."
- 48 He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."
- 49 The others at table said to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"
- 50 But he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

2 Corinthians 5

- 17 So whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come.
- 18 And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation,
- 19 namely, God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting their trespasses against them and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.
- 20 So we are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God!

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Not this session

Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Not this session

Prayer Laboratory

Act of Contrition (in Confession)

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You. I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell, but most of all because they offend You, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life. Amen.

Act of Contrition (before Confession)

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You. I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell, but most of all because they offend You, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasion of sin. Amen.

Other forms (see also Supplemental Prayers below)

O my God, I am sorry for my sins because I have offended you. I know I should love you above all things. Help me to do penance, to do better, and to avoid anything that might lead me to sin. Amen.

Comments? Questions?

[Blest Be the Tie That Binds](#)

Supplemental Readings

Sacrament of Penance (suggested in the Worship II Hymnal)

Isaiah 1

- 18 Come now, let us set things right, says the LORD: Though your sins be like scarlet, they may become white as snow; Though they be crimson red, they may become white as wool.

Isaiah 1:11-20

Isaiah 53

- 4 Yet it was our infirmities that he bore, our sufferings that he endured, while we thought of him as stricken, as one smitten by God and afflicted.
- 5 But he was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins, upon him was the chastisement that makes us whole, by his stripes we were healed.
- 6 We had all gone astray like sheep, each following his own way; But the LORD laid upon him the guilt of us all.

Isaiah 53

Ezekiel 11

- 19 I will give them a new heart and put a new spirit within them; I will remove the stony heart from their bodies, and replace it with a natural heart,
- 20 so that they will live according to my statutes, and observe and carry out my ordinances; thus they shall be my people and I will be their God.

Ezekiel 11:19-20

Luke 6

- 31 Do to others as you would have them do to you.
- 32 For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them.
- 33 And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same.
- 34 If you lend money to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit (is) that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, and get back the same amount.

- 35 But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend expecting nothing back; then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.
- 36 Be merciful, just as (also) your Father is merciful.
- 37 "Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven.
- 38 Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you."

[Luke 6:31-38](#)

Luke 15

- 1 The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to him,
- 2 but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."
- 3 So to them he addressed this parable.
- 4 "What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it?
- 5 And when he does find it, he sets it on his shoulders with great joy
- 6 and, upon his arrival home, he calls together his friends and neighbors and says to them, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.'
- 7 I tell you, in just the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.

[Luke 15:1-7](#)

Romans 5

- 6 For Christ, while we were still helpless, yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly.
- 7 Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die.
- 8 But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.
- 9 How much more then, since we are now justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath.

- 10 Indeed, if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his life.
- 11 Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

[Romans 5:6-11](#)

Ephesians 5

- 1 So be imitators of God, as beloved children,
- 2 and live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us as a sacrificial offering to God for a fragrant aroma.

[Ephesians 5:1-7](#)

Colossians 1

- 12 With joy give thanks to the Father, who has made you fit to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light.
- 13 He delivered us from the power of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,
- 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

[Colossians 1:12-14](#)

Colossians 3

- 8 But now you must put them all away: anger, fury, malice, slander, and obscene language out of your mouths.
- 9 Stop lying to one another, since you have taken off the old self with its practices
- 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed, for knowledge, in the image of its creator.
- 12 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience,
- 13 bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.
- 14 And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.

- 15 And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful.
- 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.
- 17 And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

[Colossians 3:8-17](#)

Supplemental Prayers

Sacrament of Penance (from the Worship II Hymnal)

Examination of Conscience

Prayer of the Penitent

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. O Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.

Remember your compassion and love, O LORD; for they are ages old. Remember no more the sins of my youth; remember me only in light of your love.

- [Psalm 25:6-7](#)

Have mercy on me, God, in your goodness; in your abundant compassion blot out my offense. Wash away all my guilt; from my sin cleanse me. For I know my offense; my sin is always before me.

- [Psalm 51:3-5](#)

Father, I have sinned against you and am not worthy to be called your son. Be merciful to me, a sinner.

- [Luke 15:18](#)

- [Luke 18:13](#)

Other Acts of Contrition

O My God, I am sorry for my sins. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you and your Church. I firmly intend, with the help of your Son, to make up for my sins, and to love as I should. Amen.