

## **Session Seventeen (Year B)**

**Sunday March 12, 2017**

[Come, Holy Ghost!](#)

Pentecost Prayer

Kiss of Peace

Questions? Thoughts?

Theme: Stewardship

- Time
- Talent
- Treasure

Questions for the Candidates

- What talent has God given you?
- How have you developed that talent?
- How do you use your talent to do God's will?

### [Genesis 14](#)

- 17 When Abram returned from his victory over Chedorlaomer and the kings who were allied with him, the king of Sodom went out to greet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley).
- 18 Melchizedek, king of Salem, brought out bread and wine, and being a priest of God Most High, he blessed Abram with these words:
- 19 Blessed be Abram by God Most High, the creator of heaven and earth;
- 20 And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your foes into your hand." Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

### [Deuteronomy 14](#)

- 22 "Each year you shall tithe all the produce that grows in the field you have sown;
- 23 then in the place which the LORD, your God, chooses as the dwelling place of his name you shall eat in his presence your tithe of the grain, wine and oil, as well as the firstlings of your herd and flock, that you may learn always to fear the LORD, your God.
- 24 If, however, the journey is too much for you and you are not able to bring your tithe, because the place which the LORD, your God, chooses for the abode of his name is too far for you, considering how the LORD has blessed you,
- 25 you may exchange the tithe for money and, with the purse of money in hand, go to the place which the LORD, your God, chooses.

- 26 You may then exchange the money for whatever you desire, oxen or sheep, wine or strong drink, or anything else you would enjoy, and there before the LORD, your God, you shall partake of it and make merry with your family.
- 27 But do not neglect the Levite who belongs to your community, for he has no share in the heritage with you.
- 28 "At the end of every third year you shall bring out all the tithes of your produce for that year and deposit them in community stores,
- 29 that the Levite who has no share in the heritage with you, and also the alien, the orphan and the widow who belong to your community, may come and eat their fill; so that the LORD, your God, may bless you in all that you undertake.

### Malachi 3

- 6 Surely I, the LORD, do not change, nor do you cease to be sons of Jacob.
- 7 Since the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes, and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. Yet you say, "How must we return?"
- 8 Dare a man rob God? Yet you are robbing me! And you say, "How do we rob you?" In tithes and in offerings!
- 9 You are indeed accursed, for you, the whole nation, rob me.
- 10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house, and try me in this, says the LORD of hosts: Shall I not open for you the floodgates of heaven, to pour down blessing upon you without measure?
- 11 For your sake I will forbid the locust to destroy your crops; And the vine in the field will not be barren, says the LORD of hosts.
- 12 Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land, says the LORD of hosts.

### The Ten Commandments

Not this session

### The Beatitudes

#### Matthew 5

- 5 **Blessed are the meek**, for they will inherit the land.

## Psalm 37

- 8 Give up your anger, and forsake wrath; be not vexed, it will only harm you.
- 9 For evildoers will be cut off, but those who wait for the Lord will possess the land.
- 10 Yet a little while, and the wicked man shall be no more; though you mark his place he will not be there.
- 11 But the meek shall possess the land, they shall delight in abounding peace.

### **Step 3 – Blessed are the Meek**

The Greek word used for “meek” does not mean “weak, spineless, feeble, lifeless, or dreary.” It is not the oily cringing of Dickens’ Uriah Heep, who constantly describes himself as “your humble servant.” Rather it means “gentle, considerate, and unassuming.” It means “broken,” not in the sense of destroyed or shattered, but in the sense that a horse is broken when it is tamed: strength under submission.

Moses is described as “very meek, more than all men that were on the face of the earth”. Moses was hardly a weak and spineless leader! But all the force of his character was held in place by God.

The preacher and writer Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones defined meekness as “essentially a true view of oneself, expressing itself in attitude and conduct with respect to others.” He goes on further to say:

*The man who is meek is not even sensitive about himself. He is not always watching himself and his own interests. He is not always on the defensive. We all know about this, do we not? Is not one of the greatest curses in life as a result of the Fall – this sensitivity about self? We spend the whole of our lives watching ourselves. But when a man becomes meek he has finished with all that; he no longer worries about himself and what other people say. To be truly meek means we no longer protect ourselves, because we see there is nothing worth defending. So we are not on the defensive; all that is gone. The man who is truly meek never pities himself, he is never sorry for himself.*

He goes on to quote John Bunyan: “He that is down need fear no fall.”

When we are in this position Jesus says we will “inherit the earth”. Everything we receive is a gift because we know we don’t deserve it. When we reach this state we are in a position to know how to receive what God wants to give, both in this life and the life to come – He will give us everything.

- from *Challenging Lifestyle*, by Nicky Gumbel

## Matthew 11

- 28 "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.
- 29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for your selves.
- 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

## Saints

[St. Elizabeth of Hungary](#)

## Sacraments

Not this session

## Gifts of the Holy Spirit

[Isaiah 11](#)

- 2 The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of **wisdom** and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD,
- 3 and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD.

[Wisdom 7](#)

*Nature and Incomparable Dignity of Wisdom.*

- 22 For in her is a spirit intelligent, holy, unique, manifold, subtle, agile, clear, unstained, certain, never harmful, loving the good, keen,
- 23 unhampered, beneficent, kindly, firm, secure, tranquil, all-powerful, all-seeing, and pervading all spirits, though they be intelligent, pure and very subtle.
- 24 For Wisdom is mobile beyond all motion, and she penetrates and pervades all things by reason of her purity.
- 25 For she is a breath of the might of God and a pure emanation of the glory of the Almighty; therefore nothing defiled can enter into her.
- 26 For she is the reflection of eternal light, the spotless mirror of the power of God, the image of his goodness.
- 27 Although she is one, she can do all things, and she renews everything while herself perduring; passing into holy souls from age to age, she produces friends of God and prophets.
- 28 For God loves nothing so much as the one who dwells with Wisdom.

### Proverbs 3

- 13 Happy the man who finds wisdom, the man who gains understanding!
- 14 For her profit is better than profit in silver, and better than gold is her revenue;
- 15 She is more precious than corals, and none of your choice possessions can compare with her.
- 16 Long life is in her right hand, in her left are riches and honor;
- 17 Her ways are pleasant ways, and all her paths are peace;
- 18 She is a tree of life to those who grasp her, and he is happy who holds her fast.

### **Fruits of the Holy Spirit**

#### Galatians 5

- 22 In contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, **generosity**, faithfulness,
- 23 gentleness (or humility), self-control. Against such there is no law.

#### The Catechism of the Catholic Church

- 2043 The fifth precept ("You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church") means that the faithful are obliged to assist with the material needs of the Church, each according to his own ability.

#### Matthew 5

- 38 "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'
- 39 But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on (your) right cheek, turn the other one to him as well.
- 40 If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic, hand him your cloak as well.
- 41 Should anyone press you into service for one mile, go with him for two miles.
- 42 Give to the one who asks of you, and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow.

## James 1

27 Looking after orphans and widows in their distress and keeping oneself unspotted by the world make for pure worship without stain before our God and Father.

## Daniel 4

24b Atone for your sins by good deeds, and for your misdeeds by kindness to the poor; then your prosperity will be long.

## **Prayer Laboratory**

### Ephesians 5

19 Address one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and playing to the Lord in your hearts.

### The Catechism of the Catholic Church

2672 The Holy Spirit, whose anointing permeates our whole being, is the interior Master of Christian prayer. He is the artisan of the living tradition of prayer. To be sure, there are as many paths of prayer as there are persons who pray, but it is the same Spirit acting in all and with all. It is in the communion of the Holy Spirit that Christian prayer is prayer in the Church.

Using the Bible to pray: New Testament Canticles

### Luke 2

Simeon's Canticle

29 Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled:

30 my own eyes have seen the salvation which

31 you have prepared in the sight of every people:

32 a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.

### Philippians 2:6-11

Comments? Questions?

### Blest Be the Tie That Binds

## Supplemental Readings

### Numbers 12

#### *Jealousy of Aaron and Miriam.*

- 1 Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses on the pretext of the Cushite woman he had married; for he had in fact married a Cushite woman.
- 2 They complained, "Is it through Moses alone that the LORD has spoken? Has he not spoken through us also?" And the LORD heard this.
- 3 Now the man Moses was very humble, more than anyone else on earth.
- 4 So at once the LORD said to Moses and Aaron and Miriam: Come out, you three, to the tent of meeting. And the three of them went.
- 5 Then the LORD came down in a column of cloud, and standing at the entrance of the tent, called, "Aaron and Miriam." When both came forward,
- 6 the LORD said: Now listen to my words: If there are prophets among you, in visions I reveal myself to them, in dreams I speak to them;
- 7 Not so with my servant Moses! Throughout my house he is worthy of trust:
- 8 face to face I speak to him, plainly and not in riddles. The likeness of the LORD he beholds. Why, then, do you not fear to speak against my servant Moses?
- 9 And so the LORD's wrath flared against them, and he departed.

### Zechariah 9

- 9 Exult greatly, O daughter Zion!  
Shout for joy, O daughter Jerusalem!  
Behold: your king is coming to you,  
a just savior is he,  
Humble, and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

## Proverbs 8

- 22 “The LORD begot me, the beginning of his works, the forerunner of his deeds of long ago,
- 23 From of old I was formed, at the first, before the earth.
- 24 When there were no deeps I was brought forth, when there were no fountains or springs of water;
- 25 Before the mountains were settled into place, before the hills, I was brought forth;
- 26 When the earth and the fields were not yet made, nor the first clods of the world.
- 27 When he established the heavens, there was I, when he marked out the vault over the face of the deep;
- 28 When he made firm the skies above, when he fixed fast the springs of the deep;
- 29 When he set for the sea its limit, so that the waters should not transgress his command; When he fixed the foundations of earth,
- 30 then was I beside him as artisan; I was his delight day by day, playing before him all the while,
- 31 Playing over the whole of his earth, having my delight with human beings.

## Luke 1:68-79

Zechariah's Canticle

## Luke 1:46-55

Mary's Canticle