

## POVERTY, The Rich Young Man (Mark 10:17-31)

Cenacle Teaching 10/18/18

*Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God for those who trust in riches! 10:24*

Examples of trusting in God:

- Hickein Family – sold home in Miami & moved to Covington
- Fr Jordi - Left parish he loved as pastor for the mission of LC
- Fr Ron – Sold cottage to live as missionary from suitcase
- Gloria – left career in Bogota to move to Manisales to live a simple lifestyle and take care of her parents. Also, Adriana, Sandra C, Lillian, Yadi
- Garcia Family – sold house in Miami where all their family lives and friends to move to Covington
- Jack & Ammie – sicknesses, job

*Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, 30 who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. 10:29-30*

In all these examples from members of our community we see how they have been blessed abundantly because they trusted in God, not in riches and comforts, and have also received the gift of persecutions. Each example represents a unique situation because God treats each of us as unique sons and daughters.

*And Jesus looking upon him loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me. 10:21*

Simple Path, p. 51, The Gaze of Jesus:

What was the man's response? Pope Benedict XVI tells us: "The rich youth is not able to take this step. Notwithstanding that he has been the object of the loving gaze of Jesus, his heart is not able to detach itself from the many goods that he possessed."

The Lord's words to "sell what you have and give to the poor" must be discerned by each soul with the spirit of total transparency before God wanting to truly know the "one thing that I personally lack." As I prayed years ago after this Gospel of the Rich Young Man asking the Lord to reveal to me what I lacked, He showed me that I needed to give Him my **REPUTATION**.

- This too is in our Simple Path—asking with an open heart to know what the one thing is that I lack is the same as receiving self-knowledge. At the foot of the Cross we need to pray, "My Lord, through your Spirit reveal to me at this time in my life, what is the one thing I lack? Grant me the grace to penetrate your gaze."

*I need you to incarnate Myself in you so that I can touch, embrace, bless, love and penetrate My people. Receive My gaze of the consuming fire of My Sacred Heart. My gaze desires transformed souls, souls in which it is I who lives. This is My Light in the world. Tell My little mustard seed to **receive My gaze of desire for them to be emptied of self, so that My Blood can fill them, and I, with the Divine fire of the Spirit can bring new life...** My desire is consuming Me in agony because I find hardly any souls willing to receive the desire of My Sacred Heart. **Allow Me to empty you** and I will renew the face of the earth through you. **Receive the gaze of My desire tonight and RESPOND to My call.** 10/17/18*

## **SPIRIT OF POVERTY**

### **110. Spirit of Poverty, Diary of a MOC, Simple Path p. 303**

*I wish to teach you about poverty, the spirit of poverty...**The spirit of poverty is lived when you allow the Holy Spirit, My Blessed Mother and Myself to strip you of everything interiorly: your desires, expectations, plans, attachments, securities, consolations in friendships, even consolations from Me, so that you are left completely empty...***

My Lord and my God what can I do to participate in this work?

*Allow yourself to be perfected through suffering. **Suffer with greater trust in Me... Suffer with greater abandonment and love.***

### **Luke 11:39-42**

“And the Lord said to him, “Now you Pharisees cleanse the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside you are full of extortion and wickedness. 40 You fools! Did not he who made the outside make the inside also? 41 **But give for alms those things which are within; and behold, everything is clean for you.**

42 “But woe to you Pharisees! for **you tithe mint and rue and every herb, and neglect justice and the love of God; these you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.”**

### **St Paul to the Galatians 5:6**

“For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is of any avail, but **faith working through love.**”

The Simple Path always takes us to the heart. Beginning in chapter two, we learn that God wants more than the leaf of our sin, He wants the entire root system of our sins pulled out. We can even give alms to the poor but if we lack love, we lack everything in the eyes of God. That is why St Paul teaches:

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 **If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.** (1 Cor. 13:1-3)

The heart of this Gospel is **love rooted in trust.**

- Do I live my life centered in prayer, listening and attentive to God's voice revealing to me the "one thing I lack"?
- **Pope Benedict XVI, Simple Path p. 57:**  
 "Prayer is like an open window that allows us to keep our gaze turned toward God... allow the will of God to illumine our earthly journey and to help us to live it with **intensity** and **commitment**"
- Am I constantly "wrestling" with myself – searching my heart, my intentions; taking to God the self-knowledge of my selfishness that others give me?
- Am I open or not to sincere criticism from those that love me?
- How do I react when God takes away something that I am attached to – job, car, people, house, reputation...? Our reactions are the litmus test to the level of our trust.

"I pray that each of us in Love Crucified ALLOW that two-edge sword to penetrate the hardness of our hearts, so that we can receive wisdom (first reading) —to know God and know ourselves. ONLY then can we have discernment." Fr Jordi

### **Catechism of the Catholic Church**

2547 The Lord grieves over the rich, because they find their consolation in the abundance of goods.<sup>340</sup> "Let the proud seek and love earthly kingdoms, but blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven."<sup>341</sup> Abandonment to the providence of the Father in heaven frees us from anxiety about tomorrow.<sup>342</sup> **Trust in God** is a preparation for the blessedness of the poor. They shall see God.

### **God is pleased with you, His little mustard seed:**

#42, Simple Path p. 145

*It is precisely on this path of rejection and humiliations that you will purchase for the world many graces. I am most pleased with each of you.*

The Lord is pleased with us because when we voluntarily gave our fiat to be His victim souls we gave Him EVERYTHING; we kept nothing for ourselves; we have given Him a blank check to do with us as He pleases. As our hearts are perfected in trust and abandonment to His Holy Will, we not only give alms to the poor, we receive their sufferings and oppressions in our hearts and voluntarily choose to suffer with Christ, ONE with the Crucified, for them. This is the greatest perfection of Love because we become poor, through Love, with the poor; no longer two but one in His sacrifice of love!

### The Three Forms of Poverty Facing the Disciple

OCTOBER 18, 2018, ANNE KURIANPOPE'S, Pope Francis MORNING HOMILY, zenit.org

Pope meditated on **“three stages” of the poverty Jesus asked of the disciples**: to be **detached from wealth is “the condition to begin”**. This requires having **“a poor heart”**. “If apostolic work requires structures or organizations that seem to be a sign of wealth, use them well,” said the pope, “but with detachment ... If you want to follow the Lord, choose the path of poverty, and if you have riches because the Lord has given them to you, use them to serve others, with a **detached heart**. The disciple must not be afraid of poverty, or the opposite: he must be poor. ”

The second form of poverty is **“humbly receiving persecutions, tolerating persecutions”**, persecutions “of slander, rumors”, “jealousies”, “small persecutions in the neighborhood, in the parish”.

The Pope also spoke of physical persecution: “Yesterday, in the Synod Hall, a bishop from one of those countries where there is persecution, said that a young Catholic was taken by a group of young people who hated the Church, fundamentalists: he was beaten and thrown into a cistern and they threw him mud and at the end, when the mud came to his neck: ‘For the last time: do you renounce Jesus Christ? Christ?’ - ‘No!’ They threw a stone and killed him. We have all heard it. And that does not date from the first centuries: it happened two months ago! It’s an example. But how many Christians today suffer physical persecution: “Oh, he blasphemed! On the gallows!”

The third form of poverty identified by the pope: **solitude, abandonment and especially “the solitude of the end”**, lived by Saint Paul in the first reading (2 Tim 4, 10-17b): “All have abandoned me”. And lived by Jesus on the cross: “Father, Father, why have you forsaken me? ”