

Reflecting on the Word as a Family

October 30, 2022

31st Sunday of Ordinary Time Cycle

Reading 1: Wis 11:22-12:2. God loves us and all creation. God loves sinners and call them to abandon their wickedness.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13, 14. "I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God."

Reading 2: 2 Thes 1:11-2:2.

Gospel: Lk 19:1-10. Because Zacchaeus sincerely repented, the Lord said that salvation had come to him and that He had come to seek and to save what was lost.

This is the story of Zacchaeus, the tax collector. Zacchaeus wanted to see and hear Jesus, but he was short and so he climbed a tree. He was a tax collector and a wealthy man, but tax collectors were not respected because they often cheated others to gain their wealth. So, when Jesus tells Zacchaeus to come down from the tree and that he would go to his house, the crowd was surprised. But, Zacchaeus repents and Jesus explains that he has come to "seek and to save" what was lost. In other words, Jesus has come for all of us, sinners and faithful.

Reflection:

1. Zacchaeus was willing to climb a tree to see and hear Jesus. What does this say about how much he wanted to see Jesus? What can we learn from his enthusiasm?
2. How do you think Zaccheaus felt when Jesus spoke to him and treated him well? How do you think Zaccheaus would have changed after this?
3. As humans, we tend to judge other people as good or as bad. In Jesus's time, tax collectors usually cheated others and so were considered bad. What can we learn from the way that Jesus treated Zaccheaus? What can we remember about Zacchaeus when we have done something sinful?

Prayer:

God, help us to have enthusiasm for you and our faith so that we will not take you for granted.

Help us remember to ask you for forgiveness when we sin and to truly try to sin no more.