



Daily Reflections

November 6, 2018

Scripture

Luke 14: 15-24

One of those at table with Jesus said to him,
"Blessed is the one who will dine in the Kingdom of God."
He replied to him,
"A man gave a great dinner to which he invited many.
When the time for the dinner came,
he dispatched his servant to say to those invited,
'Come, everything is now ready.'
But one by one, they all began to excuse themselves.
The first said to him,
'I have purchased a field and must go to examine it;
I ask you, consider me excused.'
And another said, 'I have purchased five yoke of oxen
and am on my way to evaluate them;
I ask you, consider me excused.'
And another said, 'I have just married a woman,
and therefore I cannot come.'
The servant went and reported this to his master.
Then the master of the house in a rage commanded his servant,
'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town
and bring in here the poor and the crippled, the blind and the lame.'
The servant reported, 'Sir, your orders have been carried out
and still there is room.'

The master then ordered the servant,
'Go out to the highways and hedgerows
and make people come in that my home may be filled.
For, I tell you, none of those men who were invited will taste my dinner.'"

Our Scripture Reflection

Today's Gospel text has been known as "Salvation history in capsulized form". Why? Because it is, in essence, a condensed version of God's relationship with His people. In ancient times God chose and called His people to do His bidding but time and time again they rejected God and went their own way. But God will not be deterred. In time He extended His gracious invitation to the "outsiders", the Gentiles. Bottom line: God wants us to be saved, all of us. The question is: How will we respond? Will we accept His gracious offer that comes to us through the Holy Spirit or will we walk away?

Food for your Journey

In his book *The Four Loves*, C. S. Lewis describes four kinds of love: affection, romantic love, friendship and the love of God. *Storge*, or affection, is the natural love a parent has for a child. *Eros*, or romantic love, is the desire two people have for each other. *Eros* is the longing for the beauty and company of the other when two people fall in love. *Filia* is the love of friendship, but may have conditions -- it gives, but may expect something equal in return. *Agape* is true, unconditional love, a generosity of spirit which gives and expects nothing in return. It is the love that God has for us, love at the highest level.

A Prayer from the Heart

Precious Lord, You came as the very personification of Our Father's gracious offer of salvation. You gave Your very life to make that offer visible to us. There is no greater love that we could experience than the love Our Father offers us in You. May our hearts always be open and accepting of God's offer and show our acceptance by living our lives in imitation of You, Dear Jesus. Amen