

Going Deeper-22nd Sunday (Year C)

Scripture

The readings this weekend are:

- + Ecclesiasticus 3: 17-20, 28-29
- + Luke 14:1 & 7-14
- + Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

Be humble and make good decisions

Nobody likes a 'show off' but sometimes it can be really difficult to always stay humble. Our pride can creep in and change the way we treat others. Ecclesiasticus 3:17-18 gives us a warning:

My son, perform your tasks in humility;
then you will be loved by those whom God accepts.

The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself;
so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord.

In Romans 12:3 Paul writes to the Church in Rome and tells them 'Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with modest judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.'

There is a real sense that God wants his people to be humble. However, this is not because he wants us to put ourselves down and feel self-pity. It is in order to lift others up instead. We see this reflected in how the humility we show effects the decisions we make towards others. For example, in the Gospel reading Jesus teaches the Pharisees (and us) not only to be humble, but also to use that humility to lift up the poor and oppressed.

Jesus shares the example of inviting to your banquets those who cannot afford to repay back the gesture. In doing this, you will be repaid in heaven. What does this mean for us today? How can we show humility to lift up our sisters and brothers?