

August 24th 2025 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year C - Luke 13:22 - 30

¹³⁻²²And he went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. ²³Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them, ²⁴Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. ²⁵When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are: ²⁶Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. ²⁷But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity. ²⁸There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out. ²⁹And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God. ³⁰And, behold, there are last which shall be first, and there are first which shall be last.

➤ **Read and re-read** – out loud and slowly the Gospel.

➤ **Meditate** - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life.

➤ **Pray** - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition.

➤ **Action** – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do).

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In this week's gospel we see Jesus going through the towns and villages teaching as He went. He was teaching the people how to succeed and have a full life. He wants us all to have a life of goodness. When asked the question "How many will be saved?" Jesus points out that in order to be saved we must make a real effort to be saved. This entire passage warns us against a complacent acceptance of ourselves as close to the kingdom of God. This can be a real help against any form of self-righteousness.

How do we who have heard and rejoiced in the word of God present it to others? Do we live our lives in a humble and truthful manner as Jesus would like us to?

Prayer:

Lord thank you for reminding us that we must aim for the kingdom of God and we must hand on your teaching with your help having full knowledge of our own weaknesses.

Forgive us Lord for the times that we became complacent about our entering the kingdom of God knowing that not all who try to enter will succeed.

Help us Lord to stand by you with humility so that we truly enter by a gate that is very narrow.

