



Friends of Jesus and Mary

XXIV Sunday in Ordinary Time September 11, 2011

Readings: Sirach 27, 33-28, 9; Psalm 102; Romans 14, 7-9; Matthew 18, 21-35

The Parable of the Unforgiving servant

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, if my brother keeps on sinning against me, how many times I have to forgive him? Seven times?" "No, not seven times," answered Jesus, "but seventy times seven, because the Kingdom of heaven is like this. Once there was a king who decided to check on his servants' accounts. He had just begun to do so when one of them was brought in who owed him millions of dollars. The servant did not have enough to pay his debt, so the king ordered him to be sold as a slave, with his wife and his children and all that he had, in order to pay the debt. The servant fell of his knees before the king. Be patient with me, he begged. 'and I will pay you everything! The king felt sorry for him, so he forgave him the debt and let him go. "Then the man went out and met one of his fellow servant who owed him a few dollars. He grabbed him and started choking him. "Pay back what you owe me! He said. His fellow servant fell down and begged him, 'be patient with me, and I will pay you back!' But he refused; instead, he had him thrown into jail until he should pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were very upset and went to the king and told him everything. So he called the servant in. You worthless slave!' he said. I forgave you the whole amount you owed me, just because you asked me to. You should have had mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you.' The king was very angry and he sent the servant to jail to be punished until he should pay back the whole amount." And Jesus concluded, "That is how my Father in heaven will treat every one of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart." (Matthew 18, 21-35)

Reflection

In the gospel of this week Jesus invites u to forgive always without thinking on offense or problem. Peter tells Jesus that he can pardon seven times that means in every case. But Jesus answered you have to forgive seventy times seven that means always and every time. How much does the servant of the gospel owe? Did he have money to pay it? What did the King order for him to pay his debt? The King ordered him to be sold as a slave, with his wife and children and all that he had in order to pay the debt. What did the servant did? The servant fell on his knees before the king. Be patient with me, he begged, and I will pay you everything! What did the King then do? The king felt sorry for him and forgave him the debt and let him go. What did the servant did the servant do with a friend that owes him a little money? He did not have compaction with him and he had him thrown into jail until he should pay the debt. How did hid friends react? They inform the King and the King called him and said: I forgave you the whole amount you owed me, and you did not have mercy on your fellow servant, just I had mercy on you. The King was very angry and sent him to jai until he pay back the whole amount. Do you pardon from your heart when someone hurts you? Share

Activity.

On the next page you will find and activity with some phrases of important persons on pardon. Try to it with the children after you Read and reflect on the gospel.

Prayer

Lord we know that you always will be merciful with us. Let our hearts turn as merciful as your heart. May we be fill with your love and always be ready to forgive others. Amen



Famous phrases about Forgiveness



Read each phrase and carefully try to understand what the author wants to say. Pick up one that will help you forgive. Memorize it. When you have a problem trying to forgive, this phrase will come to your mind to help you always forgive as Jesus did.

"When one truly loves, one forgives, forgets, and continues to love."
-Anonymous

"The community is called is called to make love and forgiveness the beating heart of the Church". –Pope Benedict XVI.

"True forgiveness is only learned in life when one truly needs to be forgiven". – Jacinto Benavente.

"Forgiving is not forgetting, it is remembering without pain". –Anonymous.

"There is no peace without justice; there is no justice without forgiveness".
–Pope John Paul II.

"The cycle of violence is only stopped by the miracle of forgiveness". –Pope John Paul II.

"The commitment to truth opens the path to forgiveness and reconciliation".
–Pope Benedict XVI.