

BLD WASHINGTON



BUKÁS-LOÓB SA DIYÓS COVENANT COMMUNITY

SERVING THE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA

Counsels

Give Up All

Theme: We are faithful to Christ when we renounce our worldliness and follow His word.

Word: Wis 7:7-11; Ps 90:12-17;
Heb 4:12-13; Mk 10:17-

Order: “Give to the poor and you will have treasures in heaven; then come, follow me.” Mk 10:21

(BLD Global Community reflection for October 2009)

REFLECTION:

Imagine that we are the rich man in the gospel narrative. We have run up to Jesus, knelt before Him and asked Him, “*Lord, what must I do to inherit eternal life?*” Suppose the Lord answers as He did in the gospel, “*You know the commandments: you shall not kill; you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not bear false witness, you shall not defraud; honor your father and your mother.*”

Before responding, note that the Lord used the word *know* in the sense of faithful observance, not merely mental knowledge. The rich man understood this correctly, when he responded “*Lord, all these I have observed from my youth.*” Can we honestly

say, “*Lord, all these I have observed since I joined BLD?*”

“*Jesus, looking at him...*” When the Lord looks at us, what will He see? “*No creature is concealed from Him, but everything is naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must render an account.*” This thought alone should bring us to urgently plea, “*Lord, have mercy!*” Thankfully, the Lord sees not as man sees. For when we see our brother sinning, what comes to our heart? Is it judgment or compassion? Are we moved to condemn or to correct? Do we run away from our brother or run to him that we may bring him back to the Lord?

“*Jesus, looking at him, loved him*” This verse captures God’s deepest essence- love. God sees our sins and all, yet His love for us remains as great and as unfathomable as ever. And because *Deus caritas est*, the Lord guides us to the road leading to salvation. “*You are lacking in one thing. Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.*”

What is that one thing that the rich man was lacking? He may have tried to faithfully observe all the commandments summed up in the 2nd great commandment: “*You shall love your neighbor as yourself*” (Mk 12:31). But his love of neighbor was hollow, because his love of God was lacking: “*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.*” (Mk 12:30).

When the Lord looked at the man, He saw that the man's heart was in his earthly possessions. His love for wealth competed with his love for God.

The Lord's sermon on the mount regarding the foolishness of worldly wealth is clear: "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth...but store up treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor decay destroys, nor thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be" (Mt 6:19-21). "You can not serve God and mammon" Mt 6:24. "But seek first the kingdom of God and is righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides" (Mt 6:33).

Some might be tempted to say, I am not rich, so that teaching does not apply to me. Perhaps our treasure comes in other forms. Am I attached to power and authority that I would zealously protect my turf against an interloper? Am I attached to my ideas and preferences that I would insist on always having my way? Am I attached to my personal good or that of my "group" that I would actively advocate for them even at the expense of common good? To identify our mammon, ask these questions: What opposing love competes against our love for God? What rival throne wages war against Jesus' lordship in our life?

Hearing the Lord's command to go sell what he had and give to the poor, the man's "*face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions.*" He did not love God enough to give up his possessions. Why does giving to the poor equate to love of God? Jesus Himself said: "*Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me*" (Mt 25:40).

Contrast the rich man's reaction to that of Peter and the other disciples: "We have given up everything and followed you."

The "Give up all" is the 3rd of four "spiritual phases" of our Christian Discipleship Formation Program, the one preceding the "Follow me" phase- our life as covenant disciples. Can we truly say as Peter did, we have given up all to follow You?

God's Promise for the Week

"Blessed are you who fear the Lord who walk in his ways! For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork, blessed shall you be, and favored." (Ps 128: 1-2)

October 7

Our Lady of the Rosary



Pope St. Pius V established this feast in 1573. The purpose was to thank God for the victory of Christians over the Turks at Lepanto—a victory attributed to the praying of the rosary. Clement XI extended the feast to the universal Church in 1716.

The development of the rosary has a long history. First, a practice developed of praying 150 Our Fathers in imitation of the 150 Psalms. Then there was a parallel practice of praying 150 Hail Marys. Soon a mystery of Jesus' life was attached to each Hail Mary. Though Mary's giving the rosary to St. Dominic is recognized as a legend, the development of this prayer form owes much to the followers of St. Dominic. One of them, Alan de la Roche, was known as "the apostle of the rosary." He founded the first Confraternity of the Rosary in the 15th century. In the 16th century the rosary was developed to its present form—with the 15 mysteries (joyful, sorrowful and glorious). In 2002, Pope John Paul II added the Mysteries of Light to this devotion.

Comment:

The purpose of the rosary is to help us meditate on the great mysteries of our salvation. Pius XII called it a compendium of the gospel. The main focus is on Jesus—his birth, life, death and resurrection. The Our Fathers remind us that Jesus' Father is the initiator of salvation. The Hail Marys remind us to join with Mary in contemplating these mysteries. They also make us aware that Mary was and is intimately joined with her Son in all the mysteries of his earthly and heavenly existence. The Glories remind us that the purpose of all life is the glory of the Trinity.

The rosary appeals to many. It is simple. The constant repetition of words helps create an atmosphere in which to contemplate the mysteries of God. We sense that Jesus and Mary are with us in the joys and sorrows of life. We grow in hope that God will bring us

to share in the glory of Jesus and Mary forever.

Quote:

“The rosary, though clearly Marian in character, is at a heart a Christ-centered prayer. It has all the depth of the gospel message in its entirety. It is an echo of the prayer of Mary, her perennial Magnificat for the work of the redemptive Incarnation which began in her virginal womb...It can be said that the rosary is, in some sense, a prayer-commentary on the final chapter of the Vatican II Constitution *Lumen Gentium*, a chapter that discusses the wondrous presence of the Mother of God in the mystery of Christ and the Church" (Pope John Paul II, apostolic letter *The Rosary of the Virgin Mary*).

Source:

<http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/Saints/Saint.aspx?id=1161>

Love Offering

Sept. 07, 2009 \$ 941.00
Sept. 18, 2009 \$1,216.00
Sept. 25, 2009 \$1,209.00
Oct. 02, 2009 \$1,003.00
Oct. 09, 2009 \$ 707.00

Philippine Typhoon Victims

Oct. 02, 2009 \$1,555.00
Oct. 09, 2009 \$ 314.00

Thank you for your generosity!

October Calendar

- Oct. 02 Eucharistic Celebration (Church)
 - 09 Praise & Worship (Church)
 - 16 Praise & Worship (Auditorium)
 - 23 Praise & Worship (Auditorium)
 - 24 Bible Seminar (CMcCAR)
CMP 2 Part 1 (CMcCar)
 - 25 Advanced Intercession and
Spiritual Warfare (CMcCAR)
Teaching of Christ (CMcCAR)
 - 30 Mass with Bishop Donald Wuerl
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Community Calendar

- Oct. 23-25, 2009
John6 Crossings Retreat
BLD Newark
Rahway, NJ

- Oct. 31, 2009
Mass with Bishop Donald Wuerl
Basilica of the National Shrine of the
Immaculate Conception
Washington, D. C. at 5:00 PM

- Nov. 13-15, 2009
Marriage Encounter No. 10
Dulles Hilton, Dulles, Virginia

- Nov. 21, 2009
Dinner Dance – BLD Annual Fund
Raising Event

Please check our website wwwbldwashington.com
for 2009 Schedule of Events.

Teaching Schedule

Oct. 24, 2009

- Basic Bible Seminar
*LSS9 & older
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Christian Maturity Program 2 Part 1
Christian Discipline
Christian Speech
*LSS8 & older
2:00 - 4:00 PM

Oct. 25, 2009

- Advanced Intercessory
Prayer Leadership
*LSS7 & older
12:00 NN – 4:00 PM

Venue:

Cardinal McCarrick Center
12247 Georgia Avenue
Wheaton, MD 20902

Reminder

Please sign in and wear your BLD IDs
during Praise and Worship, and
Community functions.