

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time-Seek the True Treasure

In life, we naturally invest our time, energy, and resources in what we believe will bring us lasting happiness and fulfillment. Yet this Sunday's readings challenge us to look beyond the attractions of worldly success and material possessions and to seek instead the Kingdom of God. They invite us to embrace the divine wisdom that leads to true and eternal life.

In first reading, Solomon sets an inspiring example for us. Rather than asking for wealth, power, or fame, he asks God for wisdom and an understanding heart to discern right from wrong. His request pleased the Lord because it reflected a sincere desire to serve faithfully. As a result, God blessed him abundantly.

The responsorial psalm proclaims that the law of the Lord is more precious than silver or gold. God's commandments guide our lives, shape our character, and lead us on the path to true happiness and eternal life.

In the second reading, Saint Paul offers a message of hope and trust, assuring us that "all things work together for good for those who love God." Even amid trials, setbacks, and disappointments, God remains actively at work, guiding us toward His saving purpose.

In the Gospel, Jesus compares the Kingdom of Heaven to a treasure hidden in a field and a pearl of great price. Upon discovering them, both seekers joyfully sell everything they have to possess what they treasure most. Their actions reveal the incomparable value of God's Kingdom and the wholehearted commitment it deserves.

Jesus also speaks of a net that gathers fish of every kind, reminding us that at the end of time, there will be a separation between the righteous and the wicked. While the wicked face judgment, the righteous will enter the eternal joy of God's presence.

The message of today's readings is clear: seek God's kingdom above all else. With hearts enlightened by faith and guided by divine wisdom, may we recognize the true treasure that never fades. May we strive each day to live faithfully and responsibly, pursuing the Kingdom of God, the hidden treasure and the pearl of great price.

God bless.

Fr. Dr. Ben Ampong