



SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time



1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a

Why do you think Elijah expected God to appear in violent, spectacular displays? What does this detail teach us about how we look for God in our own lives?

We live in a world with immense "noise" (schedules, screens, social media). What practical, daily steps can you take to quiet your life so that you can hear God's still, small voice in your daily routine?

Psalm 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14

In our secular world, "justice" and "mercy" often seem opposed to each other. How do these virtues "kiss" in the person of Jesus Christ? How can we model this divine harmony in our relationships?

We are called to be "other Christs" in the world. If Jesus' mission is one of peace, kindness, truth, and justice, how can we incorporate these virtues into our daily life? How does living a life of righteousness "prepare the path" for the Lord's presence to be experienced by others?

Romans 9:1-5

Paul would give up his salvation out of love to allow others to be united to God through belief in Jesus Christ. Is there a time when you have loved someone so much it hurt to see them go astray? How might we share God's love with them?

Paul emphasizes the fulfillment of the Old Testament in the person of Jesus. How do we view the Old Testament in light of the New? Does recognizing the unbroken thread of God's promises change how you view God's faithfulness in your own life?

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
whom, taught by the Holy Spirit,
we dare to call our Father,
bring, we pray, to perfection in our hearts
the spirit of adoption as your sons and
daughters,
that we may merit to enter into the
inheritance
which you have promised.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity
of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever

Gospel

Matthew 24:22-33

Peter was impulsive, but he was also the only one who asked to step out of the boat and walk on water. Is there an area in your life where God is calling you to step out of your comfort zone, or "get out of the boat"?

Peter did well when he focused entirely on Jesus, but began to sink as soon as he noticed the wind and the waves. What are the "winds and waves" (anxieties, distractions, or fears) that cause your faith to waver in daily life?

How can the Eucharist, Confession, and personal prayer act as Jesus' extended hand when you feel like you are sinking?