



SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

What image of our Creator is painted by this passage? How does the Lord—just in His might yet lenient in His mastery over all—contrast with our world's idea of powerful people?

Are there areas in your life in which you feel the need to take hope in God's permission for repentance?

How can you better respond to the mercy God has extended to you? Namely, in what practical ways can you extend that mercy to others?

Psalm 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16

What causes you to struggle to maintain this merciful image of the Father?

“Slow to anger, abounding in kindness and fidelity,” beyond our human perception of love, the Lord wishes to meet us in our brokenness and begin to heal us. Do you try to keep yourself at a distance from God's mercy, striving to be perfect before entering into Communion with Him?

Romans 8:26-27

Can you name a time when the words of your prayer felt inadequate? How have you responded to such encounters with your human limitations?

Paul explains that the Holy Spirit plays a significant, active role in coming to our aid in our weakness. Do you frequently take intentional time to surrender your prayer to God's Spirit?

It is easy to think we need to present ourselves to the Father in prayer perfectly with perfect words. How does this passage change your perception of your relationship with God in prayer?

Collect

Show favor, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace,

that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity,

they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands.

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 13:24-43

In the parable, the master warns that pulling up the weeds in the field might pull up the good wheat along with them. What does this say about God's mercy, patience, and desire for all souls to join Him in Heaven?

The mustard seed is “the smallest of all the seeds” yet grows into the largest plant. A small amount of yeast leavens three measures of flour. What do these parables suggest about our works of mercy and love? Do you become discouraged by the seeming ‘smallness’ of your actions? Think of such moments and how you can better offer them to God for the growth of His Kingdom.