



SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Ezekiel 18:25-28

Why did the people of Israel in exile complain that "the Lord's way is not fair"? How do we similarly fall into the trap of accusing God of injustice when we face hardship?

Ezekiel shifts focus from communal or generational blame to individual accountability. How does this challenge the human tendency to blame our past, our parents, or our environment for our current spiritual state?

Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

How do you make space to bless and praise God "every day" amid a busy schedule?

How does knowing God is "just in all his ways" bring you comfort when you see injustice around you?

When you hear that God's greatness is "unsearchable" (verse 3), does it bring you comfort or a sense of distance? Why?

Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

Paul accepts that staying in the flesh means continued hardship for him, yet he sees it as fruitful labor. How do you find purpose in difficult or painful seasons of life instead of wishing them away?

Paul stayed because the Philippians needed him. Who in your immediate circle—family, parish, or work—needs the gift of your faith and presence right now?

How do you balance a healthy Christian longing for heaven with an active, joyful commitment to your responsibilities here on earth?

Collect

O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbor,
grant that, by keeping your precepts,
we may merit to attain eternal life.

Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16a

How does this parable redefine what "justice" means compared to how human societies measure fairness?

In Catholic teaching, salvation and eternal life are unearned gifts of divine mercy. How does it feel to know you cannot "earn" your way to heaven through a ledger system of work?

Do you struggle more to accept God's mercy for "latecomers" in life, or to accept His grace as an unearned gift for yourself?