



SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

26th 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?

Psalms 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

How does waiting on God "all the day long" challenge our modern culture of instant answers and rushing?

Why is a posture of humility or meekness required to receive God's guidance and justice?

How do you personally discern the difference between your own will and God's truth?

Philippians 2:1-11

St Paul lists four blessings we receive from our faith: encouragement in Christ, solace of love, participation in the Spirit, and mercy. Which of these gifts do you feel you need to experience most deeply right now?

In a modern world driven by status, how do these two vices of warns against "selfish ambition" and "vainglory" (conceit) subtly creep into our everyday lives, families, or even our parish community?

Collect

O God, who manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven.

Gospel

Matthew 21:28-32

The first son initially says "I will not," but repents and goes. Where do you see "late obedience" or a delayed turnaround in your own spiritual journey or conversion story?

How can we guard against becoming like the second son—complacent in our Catholic identity or "going through the motions" without actual charity and fruitfulness?

How can our small group support one another in moving from simply talking about our faith to actively living out repentance and mercy?