

Fr. Romeo Evangelista Homily  
Weekday Mass – Tuesday, November 10, 2020  
Cycle A

There is a little Pharisee in all of us. We easily view the relationship between God and us under the form of a contract: I give so as to receive. After we have done something for the Lord, we expect something in return. The parable rejects this way of thinking. God owes us nothing, not even gratitude. Yes, we acknowledge our weaknesses and sins, but we are also tempted to excuse ourselves a lot.

The next step is that we begin to tell God that we are not bad at all. “Am I not doing so much good, Lord? I pray regularly, I always go to Mass”. Oh yes, we have a hard time admitting our faults, that we are sinners in dire need of God’s abundant compassion. We try to bargain with Him.

Jesus had foreseen this and told His disciples and us – that we can never put God in our debt. When we have done our best, we have shown only our gratitude to God who has done so much for us that we could never repay Him.

Who are we to criticize or judge God? When Saint John Paul II became weaker, when he was confined to the wheelchair throne, many urged him to retire and rest. But he would not give in. He wanted to die with his boots on in the service of his Master. That’s what we call dedication.

Jesus did not intend to give a picture of God as a master and us as His slaves. No He wants us to be servants who are aware of God’s infinite greatness. He wants us to show total dedication. God is not limited to eight hours of service a day. He wants disciples who are His followers 24/7. As we do not measure our love when we deal with a loved one, we also do not measure our love when we deal with God who is love.

Amen