

**FR.TK REFLECTIONS 26<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY YEAR A 2020.**

**BREAKING AND KEEPING PROMISES.**

What an interesting practical reflection this Sunday!

We all have made promises at a given time, the challenging question is **HOW OFTEN DO WE MAKE AND BREAK THEM?**

We always respond to a CRISIS or PROBLEM by making promises to make things better. This is a familiar situation, especially nowadays, and on the fact that we are nearing presidential and Parliamentary elections. All the Candidates are stipulating and selling their policies to WIN the FOLKS CONFIDENCE - the MANIFESTOS and PROMISES of what they will do within the first 100 days if they assume OFFICE! WILL THEY ACCOMPLISH THIS REALLY AS PER PROMISES?

Take a country like Kenya In Africa, whatever promises they did after the elections the folks are still struggling and we are almost to it again in two years!!

They have not yet accomplished even half of the promises. Given such situations are we not charged with RESPONSIBILITY, DUTY, and ACCOUNTABILITY to get the right leaders who will KEEP THE PROMISES?

This is what our Lord is telling us in the parable today.

The question is are we **PROMISE-MAKERS OR PROMISE-BREAKERS?**

**Obliviously anyone can make a promise and** we do make them, no doubt about it, but do we keep them. This needs **commitment.**

Paul is telling us, “ ***I beg you to complete my joy by being of the same mind, love, united in heart and thinking one thing.***” We should then live in HARMONY by keeping PROMISES, otherwise, without that we keep on: ***fighting, arguing, judging, and condemning.*** We will be divided by WANTING TO CONTROL WHO IS IN AND OUT by trivial things like **language, culture, color, race, and background.**

**This should not happen as followers Christ. We need to go beyond all that.**

We need to be truthful and keeping harmony by keeping promises as followers of Christ. We should ask ourselves who do we identify ourselves with in the case of this parable. Is it the first son or the second son in our commitment to Christ.

We need to keep on going back to our BAPTISMAL AND CONFIRMATION promises.

DO we still maintain REJECTING SATAN AND BELIEVING IN GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY?

Do we identify ourselves with the PROMISE-KEEPER OR PROMISE-BREAKER?

We need to be honest with ourselves and place ourselves where we belong in our relationship with God. Our faith and religious practices should bring out that essence of our relationship with God. God's Love should find expression through our WORDS AND PIOUS PRACTICES.

Our prayer MUST not be LIP-SERVICE but MUST be seen in action towards each other. This calls us to be faithful to our word and promises. We must keep the promise we made to God in our way of life. We promised to live in Jesus mission in our Baptism and confirmation by:

*Preaching the good news to the poor*

*Proclaiming liberty to the captives*

*Letting the oppressed go free*

*Feeding ,clothing, and caring for the least in the society.*

*LOVING EACH OTHER.*

***IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO TURN TO THE LORD AND KEEP OUR PROMISES.***

***Let us today place the past on the altar and put on Christ ONCE AND FOR ALL.***

***Through this, our ACTIONS MUST SHOW WE ARE TRUSTWORTHY DISCIPLES ready to be APOSTLES of Emmanuel, GOD WITH US.***