

FR.TK. REFLECTIONS 33rd.SUNDAY YEAR A.2020.
THE TALENTS AND GIFTS.

The beauty of this world is that God created every one of us in an incredibly unique **manner**. We are all totally different from one another, but we all are created in the **image** and **likeness of God** hence we share so much in common. God has given to every one of us different **GIFTS and TALENTS**. If we were all the same, then this world would be a very boring place to live. The uniqueness in us then makes the whole difference and all are given talents for the betterment of each another. The uniqueness makes us different in the way we think, understand, and act, thus sometimes causing friction among us if one does not measure up to our standards. We are then supposed to accommodate the feelings and bear with each other's differences, and we use our uniqueness for the common good hence the purpose of having different talents.

In today's Gospel we come across such a situation of uniqueness of personalities with different talents. Does this not really help us think of the talents and Gifts God has granted to each and every one of us in the church and society? We meet a character who brought back exactly what he was given. Was he not a careful gentle person? Yet he was **censured and blamed** not for misusing or being careful but rather for **NOT USING and TRADING THE TALENTS** he was given. In the same episode the other two characters were commended for going on their way taking all the **risks and trading with what they were given thus becoming PRODUCTIVE**.

There is always sadness and pity when we see **TALENTS going to waste thus also the person going to waste for LACK** of using **or MISUSING** their talents. We see what happens to one who is not properly **DIRECTED, HARVESTED, and CHANNELED**. How many times have we seen **brilliant football players, soccer players, basketball stars, celebrity golfers and athletes turning to DRUGS or ALCOHOLISM?**

We are called to be RESPONSIBLE over the talents God has given us calling us to be ACCOUNTABLE. How are you using the Talents and gifts that God has given to you? He has given to each and every one of us different unique talents how are we trading them? Or are we hiding them? We have the POTENTIAL of becoming better than we are but due to a combination of **fear, laziness, selfishness, and pride** we become the character who hides the talent. Circumstances can make us

drift through life thus making us live in a **selfish** and foolish manner thus not even realizing half of our potential which is a pity. Using our talents will involve **risk** taking and **hard work**.

Jesus in this parable is teaching us to use time and gifts to seek the kingdom of God, live **well** and **wisely developing our talents and trading them**.

It is by **living** that we discover our talents, and it is by **using them** that we **grow**.

The challenge today is HOW HAVE WE LIVED AND TRADED OUR TALENTS?

How are we **LIVING our lives? How have we used our possibilities and potential?**

We **must strive** to attain these possibilities and potential and make them real in our lives for our good and common good . Jesus is telling us that we have a **task** proportional to our **ability** and is expecting us to use our gifts. We must not compare ourselves to others who might deliver more. We must go with our potential and capability. We need only to push ourselves to greater levels of **trustworthiness and we will definitely hear these words:**

WELL-DONE GOOD AND TRUSTWORTHY SERVANT YOU HAVE SHOWN YOU ARE TRUSTWORTHY IN SMALL THINGS I WILL TRUST YOU WITH GREATER.

Come and join your master's happiness.