

FR.TK.REFLECTIONS 22nd SUNDAY YEAR -C-2025:

HUMILITY BERSUS PRIDE:

Common phenomenon has developed in Kenya during funerals and wedding celebrations. Seems to have two functions in one especially in location of seating protocols. It is almost accepted there are **reserved places, seats, and even food for people from cities Nairobi, Mombasa, Kisumu (watu wa Jiji) people from the city**

In our first reading (Sirach 31:7-18, 28-29) praises the person who is **conscious of his own weakness and never reject wisdom**, no matter where it comes from. **My son, conduct your affairs with humility and discretion and you will be loved by those who are** **acceptance to God (3:17)**. The greater you are the more you should humble yourself to God and you will find favor with him this the call for today. Do not seek what is beyond your capabilities which are going to stress and frustrate yourself and others. Pride brings **barriers and obstacles to God's graciousness and communion with the people.**

In the gospel Jesus is invited in the house of a leading Pharisee, we assume that other Pharisees were too invited. They must have been observing Jesus too carefully to see whether he is going to perform **healing miracle on a sabbath to trap him by breaking the law**, similarly **Jesus was too observing them** especially on the way they were choosing places of honor, the prominent seats the way they were choosing **sitting protocols (watu wa Jiji bwana)** He had an opportunity through this parable to teach on **humility and to detest from pride**. We are called to be humble always.

Humility is indeed problematic for us. The pull and drag of life does not promote humility nor does it incline us to favor for it. Life is becoming very **competitive** it seems to caution has not to be humble we will be trampled on and that humility has never won any war! We must be careful with the sounds of the society and our Christian values. We must appreciate the fact that **all what we are ,all that we have is pure gift and Grace from God.** The effort we make to be successful, don't take it for granted it is not yours but gift from God. Humility is a neglected virtue that is very vital in Christian life. It **directs our activities and navigate them in proper direction just like a radar to an airplane.** It is a virtue of **honesty about ourselves, our souls and need of Gods Grace and our relationship with one another.** we shouldn't confuse it with **arrogance, pride, weakness or denial of ability and capability or special gift** given by God. Real humility is about the truth and **honesty to our selves and need for Gods grace.**

It is about knowing our **limitations, strength and accepting ourselves in our own situations,** without pretense this is the call today. The greatest humility can be seen in the person of **Jesus Christ incarnation, taking human form from his divinity so as to lift our humanity into divinity.** Too taking the Cross is another lesson for us of humility, **he humbled himself accepting death, death on the cross.**

The call is to be humble as our Saviour and master ***what are we going to give him today? Is it HUMILITY OR PRIDE!***