

FR.TK.REFLECTIONS 26th SUNDAY YEAR-A- 2026:

BREAKING AND KEEPING PROMISES:

Prophet Ezekiel(18:25-28) addresses the Israelites in exile after they were taken as captives and slaves.Their temple,farms and properties were destroyed.They blamed all this to their ancestors and concluded that they were being punished and God was unfair to them.The prophet is telling them that they should take the blame and responsibility over themselves.He too gives them hope that it is not too late,they can still go back to their promise to God.They should take responsibility without blaming someone else over their actions.The same applies to us if we have damaged our relationship with God we can repair by going back to him.

The call is that we take **responsibility over our actions**.we **must be honesty and admit our mistakes and see where we have gone wrong**.The issue is, are we **promise keepers or breakers!**.don't we all respond to crisis,problems by making promise of improvement that we will make things better?

I admire how the politicians play this game during the election period especially in Kenya.They criss cross all the counties and every part of the nation,selling their **manifestos,policies making promises** on what they will accomplish within the first 100 days! How they will turn deserts into sources of water,reduction of things to fit the common man pocket,zero tolerance of corruption heaven on earth approach.one year below the line life has become unbearable now,prices of the basic commodities,**food stuff,gas(Petro)education,healthy infrastructure and corruption** can be detected on daily basis sending the common man to the street in demonstrations.The agendas and promises have turned upside down now they are talking of the next general elections after one year.Are these leaders keepers or breakers of promise?where is **responsibility,duty and accountability or is only rhetoric sweet empty talks**.

The parable in the gospel today in Mathew(21:28-32) puts so clearly on the **commitment of the promise we make. I am on my way to do it and never did it** consider the **frustration,anger,disappointment** of the father with this first son who never kept his promise his **yes turned to no**. Consider too the reaction of the father with the second son who categorically expressed his busy schedules to get to the vineyard, then after **second thought went ,the No turned to yes**, the father must have been overjoyed thus leading to love and forgiving. Whom do we associate ourselves with among these two characters. What do they teach us. Do we still stick to our promises, do we reconsider situations and act accordingly?

We can learn a lot between **actions and words in our daily lives**. How we live shows who we are. **Our actions speaks louder than our words**. This leads us to think about our **commitment and promises in our Christian way of life, are still keeping our Baptismal vows? saying no to evil and believing in God?** What about our commitments to our **vocations, religious life, marriage life, single life**.

How do we show our patriotism as citizen, is it only during big celebrations? Do we take **responsibility over our nations by voting, paying taxes, and community involvement**, what of those in authority are we **serious, responsible and accountable over taxpayers money** in development and making life better for the citizen. We all have a duty and responsibility over our happy way of life here on earth. We must live what we **promise and be promise keepers and make the world better for all humanity and creation**.

St. Paul letter (Philip. 2:1-11) sums everything to us that **Jesus is the Lord**, hence we need to make him the Lord of **our work, provider, spiritual, financial, sexual, social, professional and our families**.

This is what **conversion of life is all about**. We are called to take **commitment responsibility keeping and honoring in an honest manner our promises**.