



SMALL GROUP NEWSLETTER
ST. MARY OF THE VISITATION PARISH
CAMBRIDGE, (H) ONT.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE



THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 19, 2017

Introduction to the Word:

Have you ever had a moment arise, when a note has showed up, a conversation has taken place, an encounter has occurred, an interaction has happened, a place has been open and available - that made a difference? Maybe being a part of St Mary of the Visitation Parish has been such an experience for you. God's Word this weekend asks in our life as Disciples are we "consumers" who use those moments, or "contributors" who make these moments by the use of our talents and treasures. Afterall, our parish family is all about **offering every person in our community a life changing encounter with Jesus.**

Warm Up Activity: (5-10 minutes)

- Discuss what the words "consumer" and "contributor" mean to you and how do they apply to the life of Discipleship in a parish family?

Let us pray together our Heart to Home Prayer:

*God Our Heavenly Father, we long to make our thoughts your thoughts,
and our ways your ways. As we prepare with attentive mind and open heart
to hear your Word Lord, we long to be empowered with your Spirit*

so that we may bring your Word to our families, our parish and our communities.

*This, our prayer, we make through the intercession of Our Lady of the Visitation and in name of
Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.*

GOSPEL (Matthew 25.14-30)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. "The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. "After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

"And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents. His master said to him, 'Well done, good and



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trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ “Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping, where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ “But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

[Consider hearing again the Sunday Message as Small Group](#)

Questions for Discussion: *(15-20 minutes)*

- Do you agree that money is a spiritual issue and affects our relationship with God?
- Read aloud Proverbs 3:9-10. Do you believe this verse to be true? Why or why not?
- What are the obstacles you face in using your money to grow as a follower of Jesus Christ?
- What step do you need to take to move away from being a “consumer” to being a “contributor” as a means of using your talents and treasures in your spiritual growth?

Moving Forward in Prayer *(15-20 minutes)*

(This time is reserved for quiet prayer as well as for an action-response to the communal reflections. You may wish to create and add petitions of prayer at this time. This time also intent to provide moments to connect and “outreach” to the larger community.)

- Last week we talked about Anxiety? How are your three steps going?
- Start talking about Advent and how your group wants to make it special – consider the Kindness Counts Campaign and Red Stocking project which will begin very soon.

GROUP PRAYER COMMITMENT

- Offer a Holy Hour in Adoration for the intentions of our Parish and its Pastor.

Leader: Let us seek the intercession of the Patroness of our Parish as we pray: [Hail Mary](#)

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