

August 24-25, 2019

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 66:18-21

Hebrews 12:5-13

Luke 13:22-30

Stand up straight. Look people in the eye. Brush/comb your hair. Have a firm handshake. Don't chew gum. Don't slouch when you sit or walk. Shine your shoes. Press your shirt and pants, clean and freshen your clothing. Dress for success....not a night out with friends. Don't eat garlic before an interview.

Basic and wise counsel for those seeking any job or volunteer position. While many initial employment queries are now done via the internet, eventually face to face contact between an applicant and an employer will occur...and then the competition begins. With similar credentials or background histories, the deciding factor as to who gets the job-nod frequently comes down to how the applicant has presented themselves...as compared to everyone else. While we are not competing against one another for God's love (there is plenty of it to go around), a PURPOSEFUL and INTENTIONAL RELATIONSHIP with Father, Son or Holy Spirit is essential. Just because someone can pronounce the name, 'Jesus', does not mean there is a depth of relationship or investment in growing deeper and deeper in love with him. Thus, this weekend's Scripture says: 'We ate and drank in your company and you taught in our streets...' but that does not mean we have sacrificed or developed a vibrant relationship with him...we were just in his presence. Like the tabloid magazines at the check-out counters...reading them and looking at the pictures does not mean any of us personally know any of the celebrities featured within. Relationships with Jesus (like all relationships) require commitment, hard work, time, sacrifice and time. So...if you want eternal bliss... 'feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, do unto others as you would have done to you, forgive, be generous....' those are the keys to heavenly success and eternal life. Or don't...but then don't be surprised when there is 'wailing and grinding of teeth'...because some who have thought they would be first will be last...and some who have been resigned to being last, will be first.

As another Summer month prepares to fall away, thank you for joining with our Santa Clara community for an opportunity to GROW our relationships with Jesus (and one another.) **Of particular importance is the nearness of our LA CENA evening on September 14th....an opportunity for our Santa Clara FAMIGLIA to gather and celebrate with food, music and beverage what God is doing in our midst; please make your reservations promptly via SCDAYL.org or by using the paper Reservation Form available at the doors.** So as to stay informed on all that is approaching, kindly take a copy of the Bulletin home with you for other news, while always remembering, you are loved. FKB