

29th Sunday Ordinary Time - Year C

- I want to take a minute to put the battle with Amelek in context
 - Released from slavery – they’d seen
 - Plagues, Acts of God – Passover
 - Parting of the Red Sea – Wonders
 - Pillar of glory of God before them
 - NO WATER – people Wail at Moses (go to stone him)
 - God – strike the rock → Water
 - This is “Infant Israel” just reborn as a people
 - NOW, very next thing after water from the rock – Amelek.
 - Another oppty to grow in faith
 - Moses intercedes in prayer (explain the gesture – surrender/supplication)
 - Like an infant looking at mommy – they succeed *if they see him*
- Did you ever watch a baby learn to walk?
 - GROWTH – Giving up ... faith in one who loves you.
 - Each of us has a relationship with God
 - We are comfy there
 - We are called to grow – together (risk)
 - WE ARE CHURCH
 - We are a source of growth for each other
 - There is a reason Aron and Hur held up Moses’ arms
 - People of God holding up their leader
 - (They had just wanted to stone him) NO WATER
 - But with their help he persevered in prayer → Victory
 - If we persevere Victory can be ours too!
 - Let’s look at the widow and the judge – it was her perseverance that paid off
 - “For a long time the judge was unwilling”
 - In YOUR prayer – ever have NO response, silence
 - Does our faith persevere in dry times
 - Widow is an example for us
 - (pearl) Jesus says:
“When the Son of Man comes will he find faith on the earth?”
 - Literal Translation:
“When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith SUCH AS THIS on the earth?”
 - **WHAT KIND OF FAITH**
 - **Widow’s persevering faith**
 - **FRUIT OF THAT PERSEVERENCE → GROWTH in Faith**
- We are children of God, infants.
- God calls us to grow in our relationship with him
- We try, and we fall – like a baby, like Israel in desert, but persevering, we grow.
 - On the word of one who loves us
- Our perseverance in prayer opens us to God converting our hearts.