

17th Sunday Ordinary Time - Year C

- Recall my mother teaching me to pray – Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be
- Jesus teaches not only
 - what to say, but how to say it.
 - **Listen** → difference in learning a prayer vs learning to pray
 - Starts with praise “Hallowed by thy name – thy kingdom come,
 - Then Surrender “thy will be done”
 - Acknowledges dependence “daily bread” “forgive us” “lead us not”
 - Examples He uses – show persistence, boldness
 - Imagine going to neighbor after they’re in bed?
 - Confident that we are addressing Abba – our Daddy
 - Who is **eager** to provide good things to His children
 - Jesus teaches in response to a request “Teach Us to Pray”
 - Request comes after HIS example – being in prayer
 - Do our children see us pray? Grandchildren?
 - We do have responsibility to teach children to pray
(Best by example)
- These truths about prayer are used by Abraham in 1st reading
 - Abe negotiates for Sodom – praising God, acknowledging dependence
 - 50/40/30 ... 10
 - God is not reluctant to show justice & mercy (2 sides same coin)
 - God does NOT drive a hard bargain
 - An easy touch when it comes to saving the innocent
 - Patient with human weakness
 - Attentive to human needs
 - Here in Gen, we see again God **eager** to show justice & mercy
- In the examples Jesus uses God is not the reluctant sleeper
 - God is **eager** to give
 - We can knock CONFIDENTLY
 - We KNOW God is eager to meet our needs
 - Christianity not dependent upon what WE do
 - Christianity is dependent upon what we permit GOD to do
 - There’s difference between our WANTS and our NEEDS in prayer
 - We bring our wants to God – not as demands on God –
but that God would bring our wants into harmony with His will
 - AND WHEN our wants are in harmony with God’s will
– **they become needs**
- The last words of the gospel are most important:
 - “If we who are sinful know the good things to give our children how much more with the Father give the HS to those who ask”

- Without HS, we're doomed to failure – With HS what can stop us?