



Friends of Jesus and Mary

Cycle C - XXIII Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 9, 13-19; Psalm 89; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Luke 14, 25-33

Carry Your Cross to be Jesus' Disciple

Great crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them, "If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? Otherwise, after laying the foundation and finding himself unable to finish the work the onlookers should laugh at him and say, 'This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.' Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether with ten thousand troops he can successfully oppose another king advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops? But if not, while he is still far away, he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms. In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.

Reflection

Jesus tells his disciples that they must prefer Him to even their families. What does He mean? (We must love Him above all people so we may always seek Him and be filled with His Spirit of Love and be light that guides others to Him.)

Jesus also tells them that they must carry their crosses and follow Him. What are some of the crosses we must carry? (Sickness, family fights, financial problems, difficulties in school with learning or with friends...) **How can we carry our crosses and follow Jesus?** (Jesus carried His cross for love of us, forgiving and loving those who gave Him the cross, and those that hurt Him. We can follow Him by loving and forgiving those



that make us suffer and accepting the problems we cannot change. We can also carry our cross by doing the things we do not like with patience, like homework, cleaning our room, helping an annoying little brother or sister or person at school.) **Also, if we offer our crosses to Jesus, He can use them to save souls! Jesus also says we must renounce our possessions to be His disciple. What does He mean?** (If our heart is too occupied with our possessions and comforts, we will not seek Him who is the source of wisdom and happiness in this life and the next.)

Activity

On the following page, make and decorate a cross to hang on the wall. Write or draw on the back something that is difficult to endure with love. Take the cross to the altar and pray the following prayer:

Prayer

Jesus, I want to be your disciple. You are the most important person in my life. Help me to carry my cross and follow you with love and joy. I offer my cross for the salvation of souls. Amen.

Song: I have decided to follow Jesus, Cedarment Kids. (Ctrl Click)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L9h9UjlkMM>

PPT: <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1CAsFIXZKa4I5xmi1YXFu7Y1fFdvqFPBf/edit?usp=sharing&oid=115268475267556305384&rtpof=true&sd=true>



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Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

Instructions: Cut, color, and decorate with seeds, buttons, glitter...the cross and write or draw on the back something which is difficult to carry with love. Punch a hole at the top and hang with a ribbon. Take the cross to the altar and offer it to Jesus praying: *Jesus, I want to be your disciple. You are the most important person in my life. Help me to carry my cross and follow you with love and joy. I offer my cross for the salvation of souls. Amen.*

Possible crosses: chores, family fights and division, money problems, sickness, difficulties in school studying or making friends, a bully...



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