

**READINGS AND REFLECTION
FOR THE 25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

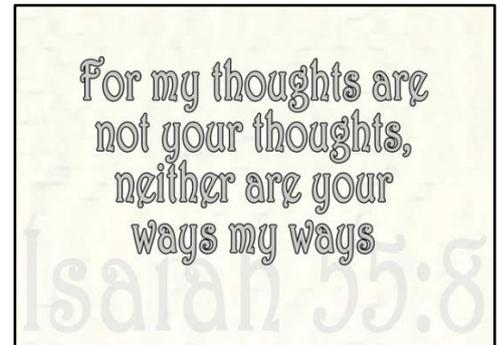
<http://cms.usccb.org/bible/readings/092720.cfm>

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH 55:6-9

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call him while he is near.
Let the scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked his thoughts;
let him turn to the LORD for mercy;
to our God, who is generous in forgiving.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
As high as the heavens are above the earth,
so high are my ways above your ways
and my thoughts above your thoughts.

The Word of the Lord.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 144 2-3, 8-9, 17-18

Every day will I bless you,
and I will praise your name forever and ever.
Great is the LORD and highly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.

THE LORD IS NEAR TO ALL WHO CALL UPON HIM.

The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and of great kindness.
The LORD is good to all
and compassionate toward all his works.
The Lord is near to all who call upon him.

The LORD is just in all his ways
and holy in all his works.
The LORD is near to all who call upon him,
to all who call upon him in truth.
The Lord is near to all who call upon him.

SECOND READING

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS 1:20-24, 27

Brothers and sisters:
Christ will be magnified in my body,
whether by life or by death.
For to me life is Christ, and death is gain.
If I go on living in the flesh,
that means fruitful labour for me.
I do not know which I shall choose.
I am caught between the two.
I long to depart this life
and be with Christ,
for that is far better.
Yet that I remain in the flesh
is more necessary for your benefit.



Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.
Acts 16:14

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 20:1-16

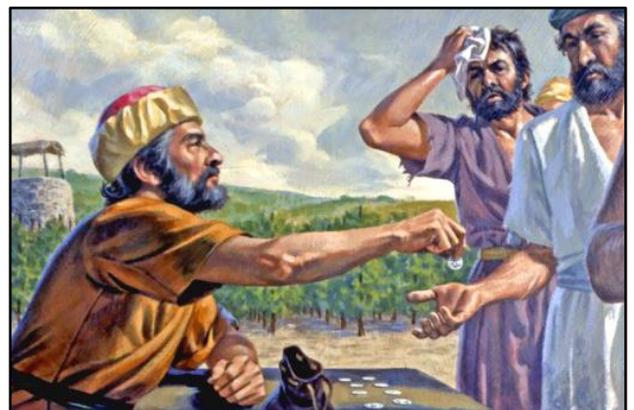
Jesus told his disciples this parable:
“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner
who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard.
After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage,
he sent them into his vineyard.

Going out about nine o'clock,
the landowner saw others standing idle in the marketplace,
and he said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard,
and I will give you what is just.'
So they went off.

And he went out again around noon,
and around three o'clock, and did likewise.
Going out about five o'clock,
the landowner found others standing around, and said to them,
'Why do you stand here idle all day?'
They answered, 'Because no one has hired us.'
He said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard.'

When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman,
'Summon the laborers and give them their pay,
beginning with the last and ending with the first.'
When those who had started about five o'clock came,
each received the usual daily wage.
So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more,
but each of them also got the usual wage.
And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying,
'These last ones worked only one hour,
and you have made them equal to us,
who bore the day's burden and the heat.'

He said to one of them in reply,
'My friend, I am not cheating you.
Did you not agree with me
for the usual daily wage?
Take what is yours and go.'



What if I wish to give this last one the same as you?
Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?
Are you envious because I am generous?
Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTION

Google Social Justice Statement Aust. Bishops 2020 **MENTAL HEALTH IN AUSTRALIA TODAY**
Key ideas from the first section: **KEY INGREDIENTS FOR LIVING LIFE TO THE FULL**

What does Mental Health mean to you? **The W.H.O. defines mental health as:**
a state of well-being in which a person can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work fruitfully, and can contribute to his/her community.

Mental health is not simply the absence of illnesses, but is about our capacity and opportunity to thrive. It engages our whole self – physically, psychologically and spiritually – touching **all aspects of our life together – social, economic and cultural. God created us out of love and for loving relationships.**

We are social beings. We need the bonds of family, friends and community to help us face our challenges and to celebrate the joys and hopes of life.

We need the economic means to meet the costs of living, to develop our potential, to contribute our gifts through our work and to plan for the future.

Through culture, we make sense of the world, share values such as a ‘fair go’ and help others.

Created in the image and likeness of God, we stand before the Mystery of *The Transcendent*. Loving relationships with one another, within creation, and with the Creator can help us discern meaning in life, with its sufferings and limitations. **These are key ingredients for good health in body, mind and spirit.**

