



ARCHDIOCESE OF PALO - CATECHETICAL MINISTRY
 Module 21 THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - B
 January 24 National Bible Sunday Mark - 1:14-20
 Theme: Share and Live God's Word

INTRODUCTION

Share observations on what local governments are doing to protect people from Covid 19. Why does the government at all levels put strict measures on health protocols that must be followed?

(Stress the importance and urgency in following what the government says for the safety of the people from the deadly virus)

Today we also hear Jesus telling us very important things needed to live a happy and peaceful life in his kingdom. Let us see what Jesus tells us.



OPENING PRAYER

(Sign of the cross)
 Lord, as we gather in your name,
 We beg you to stay with us,
 as we listen to your Word.
 Grant us a heart open to receive you.
 Enlighten our minds
 With the light of your truth.
 And strengthen our love for each other
 that we may always seek and do your will.
 We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



PHASE ONE REMEMBER THE STORY OF JESUS

1.1 Proclamation of the Gospel Story

Let us spend a few minutes of silence to prepare our heart to listen to the Word of God.
 (A moment of prayerful silence)



A reading from the Gospel according Mark 1:14-20

14 After John was arrested, Jesus went into Galilee and began preaching the Good News of God.

15 He said,

“The time has come; the kingdom of God is at hand. Change your ways and believe the Good News.”

16 As Jesus was walking along the shore of Lake Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake, for they were fishermen.

17 And Jesus said to them,

“Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.”

18 At once, they abandoned their nets and followed him. 19 Jesus went a little farther on and saw James and John, the sons of Zebedee; they were in their boat mending their nets. 20 Immediately Jesus called them and they followed him, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men.

1.2 Brief Guided silent Meditation / Personal Prayer

(Let us spend a few minutes of silence as we reflect on these questions)

- What line struck you from the reading?
- What do you think this line means?
Change your ways and believe the Good News.”
- Who did Jesus call to become “fishers for people”

1.3 Text in Context

In today’s Gospel story, we see Jesus at the beginning of his missionary work in Galilee. The voice of John fades away from the scene who was then imprisoned. We hear Jesus now.

1. What did Jesus cry out to the people?
“The time has come; the kingdom of God is at hand. Change your ways and believe the Good News.”

2. Who were the two sets of brothers whom Jesus invited to follow him? What did he ask them to do?
Simon and his brother Andrew, James and John. To leave their family to help Jesus in his work. of making the love of the Father known to the people.

3. What does Jesus mean when he said, *I will make you fish for people.*

From that time on, those he called would no longer do fishing as their work, but they will dedicate all their life bringing people to God.

4. How did they respond to his call? They immediately followed him as soon as they heard Jesus’ word.

5. What do you think made them followed Jesus at once, without further questions?

Jesus himself with his voice is so attractive that they could not help but follow him.

**PHASE II REFLECT the Story
of the Church
(Teachings of the Church)**



***The time has come; the kingdom of God is at hand.
Change your ways and believe the Good News.***

What does time point out here? The time is short and a decision has to be made now. Jesus commands us to urgently do two important things in order to experience God's kingdom where there is peace, true happiness and justice for all.

First the need to repent. In big word, it means "conversion, a call to change our old ways according to the light of the Kingdom of God.

Jesus invites us to look deeply into parts of ourselves that need to be given up to God's rule and desire.

One may say: *I am a good mother, I attend to the needs of the family.*

Or another one may say: *I am doing fine at home, I obey my parents.*

Still one may say, *I do my job well. I do not cheat at all.*

**What part of me prevents the action of God?
Is there any part of me that may cause hurts to others?
What is it that I cannot give up to God now?**

Let us change ourselves from our old self to a new person for the kingdom of God. We cannot do this by ourselves. We need God's grace in order to get away from our old ways.

Second, Jesus asks us to believe in the Gospel. The Gospel is the Good news. The Good News is the *person of Jesus*. How can we believe the Gospel if we do not know Jesus? All the teachings and stories of God's love for us are written down in the Bible by inspired writers. We will not know who Jesus is if we do not read the Bible. St Jerome says "Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ"

A person will never repent and believe in the Gospel unless he/she is attuned to the Word of God.

**Am I attracted to Word of God? What is my favourite passage or text from the Bible?
How often do I read the Bible?
Do we have a Bible at home?
Do I consider the Bible as one of the gifts I can give to others on special event?**

**PHASE THREE RESPOND – with/ in my personal
faith /community faith story**

In the Gospel, Jesus said to his first to-be disciples "*Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.*"

As soon as they heard him, they left their boats and nets and followed him at once. These men must be very focus on the person of Jesus and his word. They joined him without excuses or questions. They were the first apostles who followed Jesus and continued his works even after his death.

We celebrate **National Bible Sunday on January 24.** What can you do in your own little way to know more about Jesus and show that you follow and listen to his Word especially at this difficult time of pandemic?



CLOSING PRAYER

See guide for the enthronement of the Bible at home on pp 3-4 of this module as concluding prayer. Or if time does not allow, this prayer or similar prayer can be said. Enthronement of the Bible can be done at another time.

Lord Jesus, our family needs your help.

We want to live in peace and unity.

Give us loving hearts that understand each other.

We pray that our family might become like the Holy Family of Nazareth that prays, works, and plays together.

May your Holy Word make us caring to each other both in times of joy and sorrow.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

BACKGROUND FOR THE CATECHISTS

CCC 1427 Jesus calls to conversion. This call is an essential part of the proclamation of the kingdom: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel."¹⁶ In the Church's preaching this call is addressed first to those who do not yet know Christ and his Gospel. Also, Baptism is the principal place for the first and fundamental conversion. It is by faith in the Gospel and by Baptism¹⁷ that one renounces evil and gains salvation, that is, the forgiveness of all sins and the gift of new life.

CCC1432 The human heart is heavy and hardened. God must give man a new heart.²⁵ Conversion is first of all a work of the grace of God who makes our hearts return to him: "Restore us to thyself, O LORD, that we may be restored!"²⁶ God gives us the strength to begin anew. It is in discovering the greatness of God's love that our heart is shaken by the horror and weight of sin and begins to fear offending God by sin and being separated from him. The human heart is converted by looking upon him whom our sins have pierced:

Bible Enthronement Rituals

Enthroning the Bible is a long-standing tradition of the Church. At council meetings the celebration has been used to start the activity. During the Second Vatican Council, the Bible was enthroned every morning at the start of the sessions. This was done to remind the Bishops participating that Christ is present in their midst through His word, and that in order to effectively speak about Christ, they have to first listen to His Word. Christ is made present to the community through the words of Scripture and the sacraments. Reverence is shown to the Bible to affirm that it is part of what nourishes Christian life. The Bible is both source of inspiration and guide for action. Enthronement of the Bible is our affirmation of the importance of the Sacred Scriptures in our lives. Enthronement before an activity invites the presence of Christ in the activity. Enthronement in the home or in the workplace invites the presence of Christ in the place where we are.

Bible Enthronement for the Home Preparation:

Select a space where the Bible is to be enthroned. If the family already has an altar, the same space can be used. If there is none, select a prominent place where the Bible will be shown proper reverence. The place should be easily visible in the house but not near areas of high activity, which means that on top of the television or beside it is not recommended. A book stand is recommended to facilitate reading from the Bible when necessary. For the enthronement, prepare candles and flowers. Assign the reading parts to the different members of the family. Hymns for the enthronement may be practiced ahead of time, or select the ones already familiar to the family.

Rite of Enthronement

I. Procession.

The Enthronement starts with the procession of the Bible from the entrance to the home to the designated place for enthronement. Ideally, the head of the family will be the one to hold the Bible. The Bible is held aloft by both hands. Those holding the candles and flowers follow, then the rest of the family. The Bible is placed on the stand in an opened position. The candles and flowers are placed beside the Bible. Make sure that the flowers and candles do not overwhelm the Bible but rather draw attention to it.

Processional Hymn: Thy Word (Amy Grant/Michael W. Smith)

II. Introduction

Our family is gathered here today to enthrone the Bible which holds the Word of God. We do this to give reverence to the Bible. We enthrone the Bible to invite the presence of Christ into our home and into our hearts.

III. Reading

Ideally, the Scripture verses should be read from the Bible enthroned.

A Reading from the Book of Joshua
(Joshua 24:14-15)

Now therefore, revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now, if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

IV. Reverence to the Bible

One at a time, the members of the family will go in front of the Bible and kneel or bow towards the Bible as a sign of respect and honor.

V. Prayer of the Family

(The prayer may be divided into parts and distributed among the members of the family)

Stay with us, Lord Jesus. You came into our home today and we thank you for being with us. Be with us always and stay with us through the ups and downs of life. Be with us when we are happy, and be with us when there are problems and worries in our family when we find it hard to understand and be patient with one another.

A long time ago, You stayed with the family of Martha and Mary and Lazarus. You brought peace to their family and courage in time of sorrow. You made their house a home of love and understanding.

Stay with us, Lord, while our family is united, when joy and laughter make everything in the family easy and happy.

continue ...

Stay with us too, when the members of the family have gone their separate ways to their own families and their own dreams. Keep them in your love wherever they may be.

Stay with us, Lord, to remind us always that true peace and joy comes only at the price of sacrifice. Without sacrifice, we know that we will be selfish and unconcerned for others. Help us always to remember and to think of each other in the family, and not just ourselves.

Stay with us, Lord, when there is trouble in our home. When there is discord and misunderstanding between the old and the young. When there is coldness between mother and father, brother and sister.

Stay with us when we fight with one another. Teach us to forgive and to forget.

Stay with us, Lord, and let your presence in our family be a bond of union. Banish all jealousy and strife among us. Teach us not to be envious of one another, but to love all equally. Teach us to dissolve the silence that creeps into our family sometimes when we do not understand each other, because that silence can make us bitter. That silence can grow into dislike and even hatred. Teach us always to talk to one another – honestly and in love.

Stay with us, Lord, when there is sickness in our home. It is then specially, that we need Your courage and trust. You know what is best for each one of us. Give us the grace to accept Your will at all times – in health, in sickness, in life, and in death.

Stay with us, Lord, when we grow older and seem to be left aside in the family. Support us with your love all the days of our life until the evening shadows come, so that we may always find You in the darkness. Be with us when the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then in Your mercy, call us to enduring peace and unending rest with You and our family in our eternal home with You in heaven. Amen.
(from Prayers for Families)

VI. Greetings of Peace

Everyone is encouraged to greet with peace everyone present in the celebration.

Excerpt from:
Bible Enthronement Booklet by:
Episcopal Commission on Bible Apostolate

INFORMATION

For the celebration of Bible Month
<https://www.facebook.com/ecba.cbcp/>

January is National Bible Month.
January 24 is Sunday of the Word of God
January 23-25 is Bible Fest 2021

In celebration of National Bible Month this January 2021, ECBA (Episcopal Commission on Bible Apostolate) presents to you some Bible Enthronement Rituals and a proposed guide for the Offertory of the Word of God.

Click on the link to download your preferred version. English or Filipino

<https://www.ecba-cbcp.com/>