

► Sunday, September 21, 2008, Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 55:6-9; Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18; Phil 1:20-24, 27; Mt 20:1-16

Week #5: Main Theme: God's moral law leads to our happiness and well-being.

God is not predictable; that truth comes through clearly in today's Gospel. He will always surprise us. But we can always be sure of one thing: all of God's creativity is dedicated to our genuine happiness. His loving mercy is oriented to pulling us, every last one of us, into His Kingdom. If we believe that, we can follow Him and His commandments whole-heartedly. Sometimes we don't understand God's will for us: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord." Sometimes he asks difficult things of us, especially in matters related to the moral law. But every aspect of the Christian life is designed, according to the Father plan of loving goodness, to getting us into that vineyard and giving us the reward he has in store for us. Let us "magnify Christ" in our bodies, like Paul, and trust in God's wise and loving will.

**Bulletin: "The Lord Jesus ... opened up vistas closed to human reason, for He implied a certain likeness between the union of the divine Persons, and the unity of God's sons in truth and charity. This likeness reveals that man, who is the only creature on earth which God willed for itself, cannot fully find himself except through a sincere gift of himself."
Second Vatican Council, *Gaudium et Spes*, #24**

Suggested bulletin insert: "What the Church Teaches, Social Science Confirms"