

AUGUST 7, 2016



NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



WISDOM 18:6-9

PSALM 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22

HEBREWS 11:1-2, 8-19 OR 11:1-2, 8-12

LUKE 12:32-48 OR 12:35-48

REFLECTION

Think about the phrase “blind faith.” Is it possible to have blind faith in a God whom we cannot see? Abraham had it and this blind faith caused him to consider sacrificing his own son to God—something God himself would later do with Jesus. Abraham’s faith is the beginning of Judaism, Islam, and Christianity. This faith has been passed down for centuries and for generations. It just takes one person to have complete and total trust to change everything.

It takes a lot of strength to believe. Sometimes trusting in people is hard enough, so trusting in God seems harder. God doesn’t want it to be hard. God wants us to be prepared and be stewards of our lives. A simpler version of today’s Gospel could be like this: If we knew when our parents were coming home and they asked us to have the house clean, of course we would make sure it was done, right? But what happens when the answer about their return is vague? Do you get (or keep) the house clean because it was asked of you, or do you wait until the last minute? Jesus says clearly do NOT wait. You don’t know what things will happen and you should always be prepared. Faith in God comes with high expectations and cannot be taken lightly. Are you ready to receive all that God can offer to you, to have faith in God working through you?



FAITH

[www.youtube.com/
watch?v=kw0-GZVaj-c](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kw0-GZVaj-c)

ACTION

Test out your own version of blind faith this week. Can you trust God to care for all your problems? First you need to hand them over. Worried about a test, game, or family issue? Communicate with God. In order to work on exceptional faith, dare to be different in your ways of prayer. Find out what best matches your style of prayer so you can better trust God.

JOURNALING QUESTIONS

- What does the word faith mean to you? In what ideals, or in which people do you have faith?
- How do you rate your faith in God and what would help you have the kind of faith that comes with high expectations? Do you even want to have that kind of faith? Why or why not?