

Celebrating Extraordinary Missionary Month October 2019...

Thursday, 10 October 2019

Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:1-4,6; Lk 11:5-13

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The first reading of today is taken from the book of Malachi 3:13-20b. There e is a great difference between those who speak against God and those who fear the Lord. Both of them will have their own reward in their life. Those who speak against the Lord become evildoers and arrogant ones. But those who fear the Lord turn to be of the Lord. God will be always in their side and make them strong. One who serves the Lord becomes the righteous. It is a call to choose between of the Lord or not.

In this Gospel passage we come across with a few concepts like hospitality, friendship, ask and given, seek and find, knock and open. Hospitality can be seen as a high value in human life. It demands openness to the other. This Gospel parable is a story of the friendship. This is a parable of a journey. A friend goes to one of his friends seeking the food for another friend. The trust and confidence are found here. The man requests his friend to lend three loaves. Though the man in the bed is not in a position to getup immediately to answer the demand of his friend the persistent requests compels him to respond to the felt need. This is what we need to do with God. We must repeatedly ask our needs from God. We must *continuously* seek everything with confidence and trust. Also go on knocking shamelessly still it opens.

"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened" (11:9-10).

This action leads to a result in each one's life. This result will enable us to deepen our confidence and trust in the Lord. Jesus gives us three word pairs that have to do with prayer. In all these three pairs the first is the action, the second is the result. As we all prayer is not only as talking to God, but rather as sharing in a living relationship with God. Someone has said with a simple statement of the Christian Faith: 'that to live is to pray, to pray is to love, and to love is to serve.' We must enter into a living love relationship with God as a true friend, always available to our needs. God knows what our ultimate need is. He wants to share the Holy Spirit with us. But we must feel the need of it. As a true Friend of each of us the Almighty God is waiting to share His Spirit with us. Let us have a childlike attitude of asking repeatedly to Him for this gift.

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