

Celebrating Extraordinary Missionary Month October 2019...

Saturday, 5 October 2019

Lk 10:17-24

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“A person’s greatest glory is not what he has done but what God has done for him.” The gospel of the day brings to us the record of the joy and enthusiasm the disciples had after returning from their mission. The success that they received during their mission and satisfaction they could experience after the mission were the key points from which Jesus teaches them the eye opening message. Jesus appreciated them and encouraged them through his words of support, but he also reminded them what should be the actual joy of a missionary. He told them, “Do not rejoice because the evil spirits submit to you, rejoice rather that your names are written in heaven.” Jesus knew the success they have experienced after their missionary journey could fill them with pride. That is why Jesus was trying to remind them they should not be overjoyed of the success but instead they should be happy because they are heir of heaven.

As we are on the extra ordinary mission month, we are invited to transcend our material success in our missions. Let our success not make us proud or too much complacent. But rather it should lead us to be more thankful to the Lord.

I was so much touched by the sharing of a few of our pioneering fathers in Ghana. Their sharing simply raised my zeal and enthusiasm, as they moved around with passion to win the souls for the Lord, even at a time when there was no proper means of transportation. One of them vehemently used to speak of thousands of people whom he baptized and made followers of Christ. In spite of the great success he had achieved, he used to share at the end that ‘it was due to the mercy of God that I was born in a Catholic family, so when He has the plan to let His children know Him, how can I be indifferent and inactive’. So, he was always thankful to God for making him an instrument of God to be a witness for Him.

Today as we take up our mission with zeal and enthusiasm for the Lord let us not be overshadowed by the pride but be humble enough to have the attitude of children to receive the revelations of God and become thankful for the great privilege that we have received as Christians, religious, missionaries and priests. Jesus says “Blessed are the eyes that see what you see”. Let us be always joyful for being part of the privileged group of his followers and messengers. Amen

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