

AUGUST 9, 2019
Friday of the 17th Week in OT
Mt. 16: 24-28

TRUE WEALTH

I read yesterday in the Catholic News Agency (CNA) after the month-long break from general audiences, the sharing of Pope Francis. He asked this question: “And we, each of us, what do we own? What is our wealth, our treasure? What can we make others rich with?” he further says that the Gospel teaches us not put trust in financial resources, but in “the true wealth” that is a relationship with Jesus Christ. Hannah Brockhaus, Catholic News Agency, August 7, 2019

Our Lord Jesus Christ in our gospel for today poses an inquisitive question to test our assumptions about what is most profitable and worthwhile, what is most important, what is my life’s value and focus. He is asking us what is our most important investment that we can make with our lives. Everyday, we are making decisions that determines the kind of future we will face and live. Possible that some gain all the things here on earth, things that they set their heart on, and in the morning as they wake up, they missed the most important things in life. Sometimes we ignore people around us, our children who makes every effort to make us happy but we ignore them because we to preoccupied with other things, your wife or husband who always look after you but we overlooked their love and care, our friends who want to talk to you even if it is nonsense or he/she wants to just share his/her thoughts and experiences but we are too busy with other things. There are high percentage of suicide because few people listen to them.

My sisters and brothers, of what worth are material things if they don't help us gain heaven, our Lord and what truly lasts in eternity. Money or possessions can't buy happiness, embrace from your love ones, kiss from your wife or husband. Material things

can't buy love, compassion, mend a broken heart, cheer a lonely person and friendship. Our gospel is reminding us: "For whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man, if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life?" It is possible to give God our money, but not ourselves, or to give him lip-service, but not our hearts.

So, a true disciple gratefully gives up all with God in exchange for an everlasting life of joy and happiness. The happiness and joy God offer will last forever. Are we ready to lose all for Jesus Christ in order to gain all with Jesus Christ?