

OCTOBER 26, 2019
Saturday of the 29th Week in OT
Luke 13: 1-9

BE TRANSFORMED NOW

In today's gospel, we heard about the parable of the barren fig tree in a vineyard who does not produce good fruit. A fig tree normally matured within three years, producing plentiful fruit. This particular fig tree failed to bear fruit, so the owner decided to cut it down. However, the worker of the vineyard had a different perspective: he saw that it could bear fruit just allow "him to dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down." (Luke 13:8-9 NRSV Catholic Bible Press USA) The worker had a more generous vision of the barren fig tree. He has a more hopeful vision than the owner.

This is how the Lord looks upon us sinners. He sees us with His generous, loving, forgiving and hopeful eyes. Even if we failed to do good things in the past, He sees in us that we can do good things in the future. But the catch is, we need to act now, we need to ask forgiveness from God, we need to turn away from sin not tomorrow but today. In His loving mercy, God gives us time to get right with him and that time is now, today. If we delay, even for an hour or a day, we may discover that grace has passed us by, and our time is up. Jesus cautions us that we must be ready at all times. He will call us anytime and by that we can't do anything.

So, my brothers and sisters, the Lord always gives us ample time to repent but sometimes we delay our saying Yes to Him. We are always invited by the Lord to repent, cut our ties with our wrongdoings, change our heart and follow Him. There's always hope, we can change ourselves. He will always accept us whatever our sins are because He loves a repentant sinner. Only in Christ that we can bear fruit. So, let us stay with Him, stay with the vine to bear fruit. Repent and renew our lives today – NOW!