Ordinary Time: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday October 8, 2023

Lead Story Headline:
Thinking About Forgiveness

"Then God said, 'My people... you are the ones I love. I do everything for you...''
Isaiah 5:6

In This Issue...
- Matthew 21:33-43
- Food For Thought
- What Do You Think?
- Activity: Unscramble the Sawhorse Letters
- By The Way
- Kingdom Builders: Talking About Forgiveness
- Let's Pray
Activity: Unscramble the Sawhorse Letters

In today’s Gospel, Jesus quoted the Psalms saying, ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone’ (Matthew 21:42). The son in the story and the stone represented the same person, the one who has become our Saviour. Unscramble the letters under the sawhorse to spell the two word answer on the stone above it.


"Now I tell you, the reign of heaven will be taken away from you who do evil and will be given to good people who do what is right" Matthew 21:43.

By The Way:

Did you know that before Jesus rose from the dead, he went to the place of the dead and freed all people who had been faithful to God, like Moses and Abraham? We talk about this belief in the Apostle’s Creed. Read the Apostle’s Creed and see if you can find where it is!

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

“One day Jesus told this story to the chief priests and the leaders of the people: Once there was a man who owned a grape vineyard. He built a wall around it to protect it, and he put a tower in the middle of it so he could watch over it. Then he hired people to work there and went to live in another country. When it was time to pick grapes, the owner sent his servants to collect his share from the workers. But the workers beat the servants and killed some of them. Later, the owner sent more servants, and they, too, were beaten and killed. Finally he said, ‘I will send my son, for surely those workers will respect my own son.’ “But the workers said to each other, ‘This son will be the owner someday, and he will have all this property. Let’s kill him and take the property for ourselves.’ “So they took the son, threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.” Then Jesus said to the chief priests and leaders, “Now what do you think the owner will do when he comes back and finds out what the workers have done?” They answered, “He will punish those wicked people and give his vineyard to good people.” Jesus said to him, “Remember what it says in the Psalms, ‘The stone which the builders did not want has become the cornerstone.’ “Now I tell you, the reign of heaven will be taken away from you who do evil and will be given to good people who do what is right.”

This is the Good News of the Lord.

What Do You Think?

1. Why do you think that the workers kept beating and killing the servants?

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2. What do you think the owner did in the end with the workers who hurt all his servants and his son? What do you think Jesus wanted him to do?

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Youth Newsletter | Issue 01
Kingdom Builders: Talking About Forgiveness

Have you ever heard someone say, “turn the other cheek”? Do you know what this means? Grab a piece of paper and brainstorm some ideas about what it could mean. If you really aren't sure, ask an adult or a friend what they think it means! Write down some of their ideas too! Then come back here for some answers. Turning the other cheek means that when someone hurts us, we don't turn around and try to hurt them back. This can include our friends, siblings, or classmates. Think about a situation where someone hurt your feelings. What did you do? How did you react? What could you have done differently? When someone hurts you - whether by accident or on purpose - try to turn the other cheek. This means that you can try to be nice to them even if they weren't that nice to you! Or you can ignore their actions when they are mean to you so that you don't hurt them back. Jesus calls all of us to turn the other cheek so that we don't hurt the people around us even if they aren't nice to us. Have you ever had to forgive someone before? Have you ever had to ask someone else for forgiveness? What are these situations like for you? Think of someone who you may have hurt before and think of how you can tell them you are sorry. Then think of someone who has hurt you. How can you forgive them? Think about the Gospel that we read today. What do you think it has to do with forgiveness or turning the other cheek? When you are done thinking about this, take another piece of paper and write out the word “forgive” in the middle. Then write other words and draw pictures all around it that can teach someone else about what it means to forgive!

Let's Pray:

"Keeper of the vineyard, may we never reject your presence in our life. Through our work and love, may we welcome all of your people into our life. Help us to be your vineyard and care for us always. Amen."

"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer... with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God"

Philippians 4:6