

THE POWER OF POVERTY

& The Beauty of Mercy: Part Two

SEASON 8 EP. 6

Group Questions

1. What struck you from this week's episode?
2. What are some fears or hesitations that have kept you from encountering Jesus in the poor?
3. In Matthew 25, Jesus invites us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and welcome the stranger. Where do the opportunities to respond to this call already exist in your everyday life? How did this episode change the way you look at your response to Mathew 25?
4. Jesus asked St. Francis to rebuild his church and Fr. Mark Mary invited us to rebuild the church through prayer. How can we continue becoming a people of prayer who allow the Holy Spirit to operate in and through us?

Lectio Divina

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats....Then the king will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me’...the righteous [will have] eternal life.” - Matthew 25:31-46

Journal Questions

1. In Matthew 26, Jesus said, “the poor you will always have with you.” Who are the poor among you? If no one comes to mind initially, pray for the Holy Spirit to open your eyes to see those who are in material need and those are unloved, unwanted or unnoticed.
2. Fr. Benedict often said the poor are the eighth sacrament—reflect on how you have received the grace of God in seeing, knowing, and serving the materially and spiritually poor among you.
3. What is the grace you need most to respond to Jesus' invitation and live out the corporal works of mercy in your everyday life?

Quote to Ponder

“We think sometimes that poverty is only being hungry, naked and homeless. The poverty of being unwanted, unloved and uncared for is the greatest poverty. We must start in our own homes to remedy this kind of poverty.”
- Mother Teresa

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