

CONVERSION



Luke 19: 1-10

He entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

This is the Gospel of the Lord



Prayer One

The Sign of the Cross

**Let us remember that everything we do is
In the name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

***Reflection:
This week's Gospel gives us the story of
Zacchaeus, one of the most interesting
accounts in the Gospels.***



Whenever Jesus was passing by people wanted to meet him and hear what he had to say. By this stage in his ministry he was generating quite a buzz.

Zacchaeus had a problem though, in that he was quite short, so he decided to climb a tree so he could catch sight of Jesus.

**What do you think Jesus had that made him so popular?
Why did people drop everything and travel a long way to come and see him?**

Why did Zacchaeus risk breaking bones to climb a tree?

When you remember how much excitement Jesus generated, does it change your attitude to the things that he teaches and the things that he did?



Final Prayer

LOVING FATHER...

When your Son came to earth he changed everything. He taught people how to love and care for one another, he taught them about the God that loved them and he gave up his life to bring them back to you, their loving God. Help us to welcome your Son and the things that he taught in the way Zacchaeus did, with love, excitement and openness.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer Two

The Sign of the Cross

Let us remember that
everything we do is
In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen



Reflection: Our theme this week is CONVERSION, a key theme in the Gospels. One way of looking at Conversion is to say that it's a dramatic change. It is when somebody becomes so convinced or influenced by something that they change their way of looking at it and change a lot of things in their lives in response.



We often talk about people being converted to faith.

In fact, helping people to convert to faith in Christ, and ministering to those who have, is the very reason why the Church exists.

We are all called to convert to Christ. That's what it means to be Christian, and conversion means to change ourselves in positive ways: to love, to pray, to regularly receive the sacraments, to stop doing the things we know we're not meant to do, and to start doing the things that we know we are meant to do.

This week, ask yourself if there is anything you can do to grow in your faith and grow closer to God.

Final Prayer

LOVING FATHER...

You sent your Son to earth to bring us to you: to your truth, your love, your peace, and ultimately to live with you in heaven for eternity.

Help us to respond to Jesus call in a generous and loving way.

**IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.
AMEN.**

Prayer Three

The Sign of the Cross

Let us remember that everything we do is in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

*Reflection: This week is the first week back after a break.
It's always difficult coming back to working after a break*



Much as we all love to relax and chill out, our lives would soon start to feel pretty empty if that was all we did.

This week, why not try to refocus yourself. Remind yourself why you are here. Remind yourself what you want to become, or to achieve, in the future.

When you have done that, take a moment to pray. Ask God to be with you as you work and ask him to help you to become everything that he created you to be



Final Prayer

LOVING FATHER...

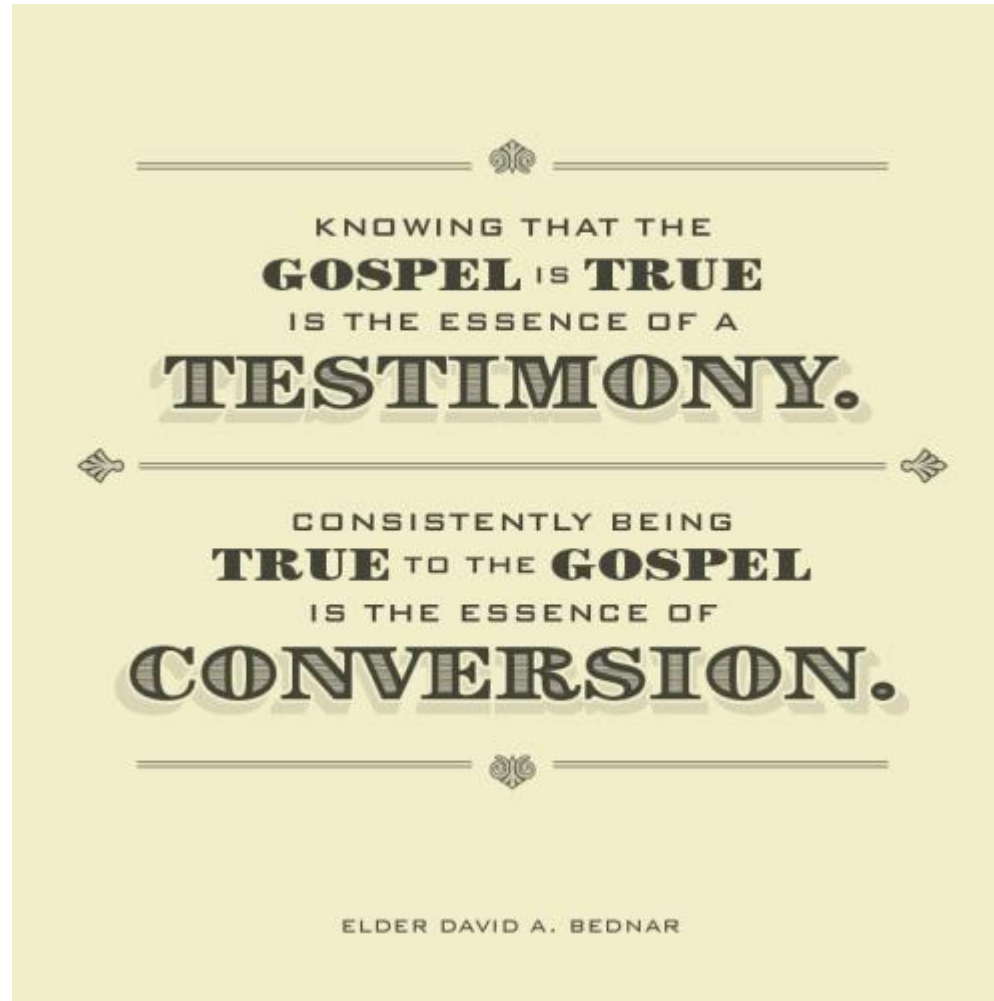
We thank you for bringing us back together as a community and for keeping us safe and happy during the break.

Be with us in the weeks ahead and help us to work hard so that in all things we might grow closer to the amazing people you created us to be.

IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. AMEN.



Final Thought...



Next weeks theme: Remembrance