

## Lesson 2 – Sept 27

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### Lesson 1 Review & Extend: Interpreting Scripture

#### What do you think about when you make the sign of the cross?

- How to make Scripture, Mass, Religious Ed meaningful:
  - Apply prior knowledge
  - Ask questions
  - Put the Lord in your place and yourself in place of the Lord

#### Interpreting Scripture properly and fully

- Finding the full sense of the Word
  - explicit v. implicit
  - examples, lessons, instructions

*God don't play: no loopholes in Scripture!*

#### Reason & Revelation

- *“Faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth; and God has placed in the human heart a desire to know the truth”* (St. John Paul II)
- Free Will:
  - we're not robots
- Gift of reason, Gift of faith
  - We don't need Scripture to come to every conclusion that the Bible teaches us
  - But we do need God's revelation to clarify and guide us
  - We are limited by our humanity and our “human ways of knowing and thinking” ([CCC 40](#))
    - = limited senses, language, **pride**, emotions
  - Thus “Our human words always fall short of the mystery of God” ([CCC 42](#))

#### “Senses of Scripture”

- **Literal sense**: “the meaning conveyed by the words of Scripture and discovered by exegesis [critical study], following the rules of sound interpretation” (CCC 116)
- **Allegorical**: significance of events in Christ; *allegorical* = figurative, “speaking beyond”
- **Moral**: “for our instruction” (1 Cor 10:11); moral = right principles and behavior
- **Anagogical**: the “realities and events in terms of their eternal significance; *anagoge* = “leading”
  - **Application**:
    - So, when you're sitting in Mass wondering, “What's the point?”, think about the “SENSES” of the teaching:

<b>Literal</b>	<i>What do the words mean?</i>	Explicit, the words themselves
<b>Allegorical</b>	<i>What's the reference to?</i>	Analogy or comparison
<b>Moral</b>	<i>What is the lesson?</i>	Right v. wrong
<b>Anagogical</b>	<i>What am I supposed to do?</i>	<i>Where is it leading me? What is the lesson God wants me to take home?</i>

[Parable of the Lost Son \(Lk 15:11-32\)](#) (Extra Credit: [Parable of the Dishonest Steward \(Lk 16:1-13\)](#))

## Extending the Word of God in the Commandments

- **FIRST COMMANDMENT:**

***I am the Lord your God: you shall not have strange gods before me***

- Extension: if you love God, you will “reject everything that is opposed” to our faith in God ([CCC 2088](#))
- Jesus clarifies:
  - “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.” ([Mt 22:24-40](#))
    - Key word “**ALL**” - no loopholes!
  - “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.” ([Mt. 5:17-19](#))
    - Uh-oh...

- **SECOND COMMANDMENT:**

***You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.***

- Extension:
  - all things of God are Holy
- Gospel of John explains:
  - “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God” ([Jn 1:1](#))
    - “the Word incarnate”
  - Words = substance (versus “nominalism” or sophism which hold that words are just words)
    - “word” = “verb” = [predicate](#)
    - [predicate](#) = “the idea” of the sentence created by the verb
    - Socrates: *Can I call a man a horse, and a horse a man?* ([Cratylus](#))
    - words matter; with God, **the Word is**
- Jesus clarifies:
  - “Let your ‘Yes’ mean ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No’ mean ‘No.’ Anything more is from the evil one.” ([Mt 5:33-37](#))

- **FOURTH COMMANDMENT:**

***Honor your father and your mother***

- Extension: obey all legitimate authority
  - “We are obliged to honor and respect all those whom God, for our good, has vested with his authority” ([CCC 2197](#))
- Jesus clarifies:
  - “Whoever wishes to be great among you shall be your servant” ([Mt 20:26](#))  
and
  - “Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s” ([Mt 22:21](#); [CCC 2242](#))
- Application: respect your teacher so long as your teacher respects and serves you

- **SIXTH COMMANDMENT:**

***You shall not commit adultery***

- Extension: what qualifies as “adultery”?
- Jesus clarifies: “*But I say to you that every one who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart*” ([Mt 5:28](#))
- Extension:
  - “Baptism confers on its recipient the grace of purification from all sins. But the baptized must continue to struggle against [concupiscence](#) of the flesh and disordered desires. With God's grace he will prevail.” ([CCC 2520](#))
  - “personal dignity” (which is Godly) is dependent upon “self-mastery” (self-control)
  - “Offenses against chastity” include adultery, prostitution, homosexuality, masturbation, pornography, divorce, etc. ([CCC 2342](#), [2351-2356](#), [2380-2386](#))
- So what’s the point – just rules?
  - “In creating men 'male and female,' God gives man and woman an equal personal dignity." "Man is a person, man and woman equally so, since both were created in the image and likeness of the personal God." ([CCC 2234](#))
    - = we are like God, so we are to be like God

- **SEVENTH COMMANDMENT:**

***You shall not steal***

- Extension:
  - “The seventh commandment enjoins respect for the integrity of creation.” ([CCC 2415](#))
  - “The seventh commandment enjoins the practice of justice and charity in the administration of earthly goods and the fruits of men's labor.” ([CCC 2451](#))
- Jesus clarifies:
  - “*Whoever has two tunics should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise.*” ([Lk 3:11](#))

- **EIGHTH COMMANDMENT:**

***You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor***

- Extension:
  - "A lie consists in speaking a falsehood with the intention of deceiving." ([CCC 2482](#))
  - “*God created mankind in his image*” ([Gen 1:27](#)), thus man “expresses the truth of his relationship with God the Creator” (from [CCC 2501](#)) through his own works.
- Jesus clarifies:
  - “*...you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*” ([Jn 8:32](#))
  - “*You belong to your father the devil and you willingly carry out your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in truth, because there is no truth in him. When he tells a lie, he speaks in character, because he is a liar and the father of lies.*” ([Jn 8:44](#))
- Application:
  - God wants us together
  - Lies separate us
    - Thus, lies are separation from God (besides, he knows we lied)

### Scattering v. Gathering

- “scattering” = separation from God (Hell is eternal separation from God)
- “gathering” = coming together for God (Heaven is unity with God)
- the word “devil” is from the Greek *diaballein* = “to throw across, throw apart”= “to scatter”

<b>Scattering</b>	<b>Gathering</b>
Fall of Man (evicted from Eden)	Jesus
Cain (murders Abel)	Abel
Tower of Babel	Pentecost
The Flood (punishment)	Noah and the dove Christ’s baptism (the dove) (CCC 701)
the Tribes of Israel	David gathers the Tribes, unifies in Jerusalem
<i>break covenant</i>	<i>repair covenant</i>
<i>Without God</i>	<i>With God</i>
<i>Satan</i>	<i>God</i>
<i>Hell</i>	<i>Heaven</i>
<b><i>Sin</i></b>	<b><i>Repentance</i></b>

### Why?

- **Creation / Creatures**
  - what is not creation? God, Jesus, Holy Spirit
  - what is creation: everything else (universe, angels, earth, us)
  - as creators, we serve another power, will that be God or mammon?
    - If mammon, can we ever win?
      - Is it: “He who dies with the most toys wins” ?
      - Or “There are no U-Hauls following a hearse”
  - God alone gives us the way out of the traps of creation
- **Understanding Time**
  - BC/ AD definitions
    - Generation = a family line
    - a generation is 20-30 years

Generation	Birth Year or Year	No. of Generations
You		1
Your parents		2
Your grandparents		3
World War I	1918	
Civil War	1861	
American Revolution	1776	
Year 1000	1000	
Birth of Christ	1 AD	

- *What has changed since the time of Christ?*  
(hint: nothing: “Nothing is new under the sun” ([Eccl 1:9](#)) )

## Sin

- Vocab: *original sin, free will, Concupiscence, venial sin, grave sin, mortal sin*
  - **Pride**: the heart of sin
  - **Death**: “the wages of sin”
- You think you sinned?
 

*But Peter said, “My friend, I do not know what you are talking about.” Just as he was saying this, the cock crowed, and the Lord turned and looked at Peter; and Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, “Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.”* ([Lk 22:60-61](#))
- Dying in sin
- Living in Christ

## Beatitudes & Sacraments

- **Beatitudes** = “the quest for happiness”
  - (see list [CCC 1716](#) or Vocab B [Catechism vocab B](#))
  - “by shedding light on the actions and attitudes characteristic of the Christian life, they describe the vocation of all the faithful ([CCC 1716](#))”
    - Happiness = being in God and not in our “disordered sin”
    - “they purify our hearts in order to teach us to love God above all things” ([CCC 1728](#))
      - = NOT “It’s all about meeeee!”
  - Example:

***Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.***

***Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.***

***Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.*** (Mt 5:7-9)

- Using the “senses of scripture”:

Literal	Allegorical	Moral	Anagogical
<i>What it says...</i>	<i>Applies to just about any situation in our lives</i>	<i>Don’t be the opposite of these!</i>	<i>These are paths to happiness on earth and salvation in the eternal life</i>

- Jesus says: “***You shall love your neighbor as yourself***” ([Mt. 22:39](#))
  - Extension: It’s not about you
    - “hate” = sin and separation from God (see [CCC 1033](#) = Hell)
    - 1 John warns us: “*He who does not love remains in death. Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him*” ([1 Jn 3:15](#))
    - Note: Jesus didn’t say “like” your neighbor and enemy, he said to “love” him
- Jesus clarifies: “*For from the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, unchastity, theft, false witness, blasphemy*” ([Mt 15:19](#))
- the Beatitudes don’t just tell us how to live (they do): they tell us how we need to live to GET TO HEAVEN
  - God knows we are weak
  - God knows we are susceptible to temptation and sin.
  - God knows us, that’s why he sent his First Born and Only Son to save us.

## Baptism, Confirmation, Communion, and Reconciliation and Penance

- Great, but how do we apply it to our lives?
  - The Sacraments, which the Church calls the “Seven Mysteries”
  - For us today, we want to think about the sacraments:
- Sacrament of **Baptism**:
  - “for the forgiveness of sins” ([CCC 1262](#))
    - “By Baptism all sins are forgiven, original sin and all personal sins, as well as all punishment for sin.” ([CCC 1263](#))
    - “Yet certain temporal consequences of sin remain in the baptized, such as suffering, illness, death, and such frailties inherent in life as weaknesses of character, and so on, as well as an inclination to sin that Tradition calls concupiscence, or metaphorically, “the tinder for sin” (fomes peccati);”
    - “since concupiscence “is left for us to wrestle with, it cannot harm those who do not consent but manfully resist it by the grace of Jesus Christ.” ([CCC 1264](#))
  - Jesus clarifies:
    - *“If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one of your members than to have your whole body thrown into Gehenna.*
    - *And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one of your members than to have your whole body go into Gehenna.”* ([Mt 5:29-30](#))
    - “Pray that you may not undergo the test.” ([Mt. 22:40](#))
      - = when tempted pray
- Sacrament of **Confirmation**:
  - “It must be explained to the faithful that the reception of the sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace” ([CCC 1285](#))
- Sacrament of the **Eucharist**
  - “The holy Eucharist completes Christian initiation. Those who have been raised to the dignity of the royal priesthood by Baptism and configured more deeply to Christ by Confirmation participate with the whole community in the Lord's own sacrifice by means of the Eucharist.” ([CCC 1322](#))
- Sacrament of **Penance and Reconciliation**
  - “It is called the sacrament of conversion because it makes sacramentally present Jesus' call to conversion, the first step in returning to the Father from whom one has strayed by sin.” ([CCC 1423](#))
  - “It is called the sacrament of Penance, since it consecrates the Christian sinner's personal and ecclesial steps of conversion, penance, and satisfaction.” ([CCC 1424](#))
  - It is called the sacrament of confession, since the disclosure or confession of sins to a priest is an essential element of this sacrament. In a profound sense it is also a “confession” - acknowledgment and praise - of the holiness of God and of his mercy toward sinful man. ([CCC 1425](#))

### Next

- Typology
- The Mass: “Heaven on Earth”
- Sacrament of Reconciliation