

LIVING FAITH

A RESOURCE FOR FAMILIES

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 23rd , 2016

THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY—

The parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector
Luke 18:9-14



ROMAN CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. JOHN'S



Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt:

‘Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, “God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.”

But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, “God, be merciful to me, a sinner!”

I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.’

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

What’s the problem with the Pharisee in this story? Is it a problem that others treated him with respect? Surely not. Is it a problem that he did all the right things, including fasting twice a week? That can’t be so. Is it a problem that he gave one-tenth of all his earnings to charity? No, for sure that can’t be the issue. Then what? For a clue, look at what the Pharisee says just before this: “God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector.” There’s the problem! He does all the right things, but he has a heart of stone. He is judgmental of others, and thinks that he is better than everybody else. There is a lesson in this for us. It’s important to do good things. But it is even more important to do good things with a free and open heart, with love and compassion for others. It is possible to do all the right things, but still not to be loving or compassionate. It’s possible to go through all the motions, but to be harsh and judgmental inside. We are called not to judge, but to serve, and to serve others with open hearts and open minds.

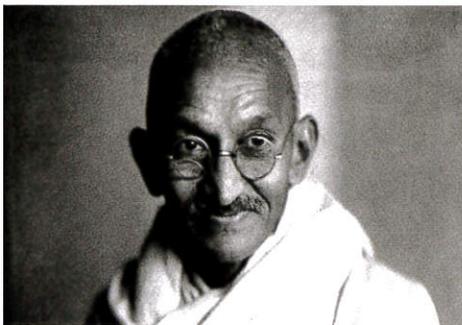
WHO HAS MADE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LIFE?

Write their name here, or better yet tell a story about that person!



IN WHOSE LIFE HAVE YOU

MADE A DIFFERENCE?
Write their name here, or better yet tell a story about that person!



WHO DO YOU THINK HAS MADE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD?

Write their name here, or better yet tell a story about that person!



WHAT KIND OF DIFFERENCE WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE IN THE WORLD?

Write some thoughts here, or better yet share your hope with another person!

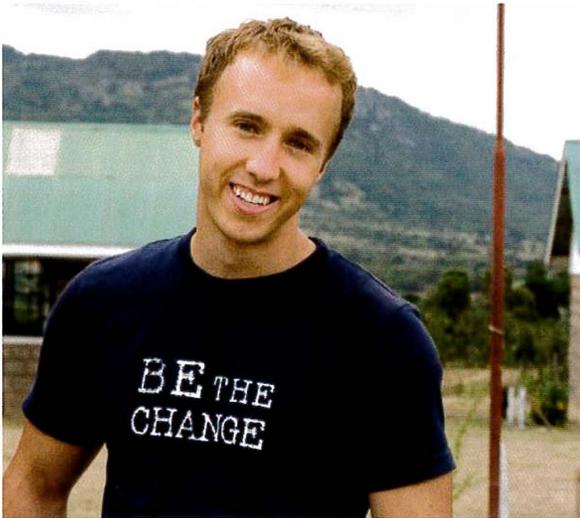


WHAT SITUATIONS IN THE WORLD CRY OUT FOR SOMEONE TO STEP IN AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Write some thoughts here, or better yet share your hope with another person!

PEOPLE WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE... WHO WOULD YOU ADD TO THIS LIST?

Jesus Christ, Mahatma Gandhi, Winston Churchill, Thomas Jefferson , William Shakespeare, Muhammad, Nelson Mandela, St. Paul, Emperor Constantine, Charles Darwin, Louis Pasteur, Confucius, Galileo, Joan of Arc, Pope John Paul II, Leonardo da Vinci, Mozart, Rosa Parks, Marie Curie, Mother Teresa of Calcutta _____, _____,



CRAIG KIELBURGER—FROM ME TO WE

Can one person make a difference? Anyone who has ever encountered Craig Keilburger knows that the answer is “yes.”

Craig and his brother Marc have been the founders and driving forces behind Free the Children, an international development and youth empowerment organization; Me to We, a social enterprise, and We Day, an annual youth empowerment event. On April 11, 2008, he was named a Member of the Order of Canada by the Governor General of Canada. Craig Kielburger was born in Thornhill, Ontario. He attended Blessed Scalabrini Catholic School, in Thornhill, which is where he did a school project which eventually gave birth to Free the Children, and Mary Ward Catholic Secondary School in Scarborough.

In 1995, when Craig was 12 years old, he saw a headline in the *Toronto Star* newspaper that read “Battled child labour, boy, 12, murdered.” The accompanying story was about a young Pakistani boy named Iqbal Masih who was forced into bonded labour in a carpet factory at the age of four, became an international figurehead for the fight against child labour by 12 years old, and was murdered in 1995.

Kielburger did more research about child labour and asked his seventh-grade teacher to speak to his classmates on the topic. Several offered to help, and the group of pre-teens started “Kids Can Free the Children” (later Free The Children).

Kielburger also co-founded Me to We, a social enterprise that donates half its annual profits to Free the Children by selling socially conscious products and services. The social enterprise donates half of its net profits to its partner charity, Free The Children, and invests the other half back into growing the enterprise.

WE is a movement that brings people together and gives them the tools to change the world. Today, WE unites millions of passionate youth, women and men working together to shift the world from “me” to “we.”

ONE PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

WE is based on five guiding beliefs:

1. ME into WE-- We are capable of doing more together than any one of us could do alone.
2. WE is everyone—and every person can make a difference.
3. WE are the change-- If we don't take action, who will?
4. WE are a global community—WE is about giving of ourselves to help raise a compassionate future generation that looks for any opportunity to make a difference.
5. I am WE-- Our lives take on a deeper, transformative meaning when we impact the lives of others.



TO LEARN MORE,
CHECK OUT THESE WEBSITES:

www.metowe.com

www.we.org

To receive a weekly e-version of this Resource, email familycathechesis@rcsj.org