

Scripture Reading

A Reading of the Gospel According to Luke (*Luke 10:22*)

All things have been committed to Me by My Father. No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and no one knows who the Father is except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal Him. The Gospel of the Lord. R. Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection – For Jesus' pleasure, let's focus all our loving sentiments on our Heavenly Father, our origin, final destination, and the Source of All our Goodness

God makes us like Him, to be part of His family and lavishes His love on us. *Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." (Genesis 1:26).* God gives us freewill to choose, intellect to reason, emotional capacity to love and to receive love, and with a soul that will last for eternity. Out of love He made us so that we can be part of His family with Jesus as our Brother. *He predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with His pleasure and will (cf. Ephesians 1:5).* Even before we were born God already planned happily to make us His children. He made us the subject of His divine love (cf. Jeremiah 31:3), the subject of His care and attention (cf. Psalm 8:4, Job 7:17). Yes, God made us a little lower than the angels and crowned us with glory and honour (cf. Psalm 8:5).

God cannot stop thinking about us. *How precious to me are Your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand...(Psalm 139:17-18).* Though we are not aware of it, God thinks about us all the time as He has made us the subject of His love and part of His family. He healed us though we are unaware that healing comes from Him. In our troubled times, He held us close to Himself in tenderness to comfort us but we are unaware our consolation was from Him, our Heavenly Father. *It was I who taught Ephraim to walk, taking them by the arms; but they did not realize it was I who healed them. I led them with cords of human kindness, with ties of love. To them I was like one who lifts a little child to the cheek, and I bent down to feed them (Hosea 11:3-4).* God is our tender, caring, invisible, ever-present parent.

God cares about the minute details of our lives. *And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. (Matthew 10:30).* God the Father is not a remote spiritual being, living in distant heaven and too busy with other important matters that He is unconcerned with the minute details of our lives. Do we sometimes feel God does not know how we feel? *Record my misery; list my tears on Your scroll - are they not in Your record? (Psalm 56:8).*

God's love will never forsake us when our hearts are open to Him. *Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! (Isaiah 49:15).* The greatest proof of God's love for us is demonstrated when our first parents fell from grace and wilfully disobeyed Him. God, the Father provided swift remedy and did not flinch from sending His own Son, Jesus as sacrifice for our sins. To redeem us, Jesus came not in the form of a conquering military ruler but was borne incarnate as a human baby who would later on save the world through His own suffering, blood, sweat and tears. Just as Jesus suffers greatly and pays a tremendous personal cost for our salvation and redemption so too does God, our Heavenly Father who suffers in His Son. On the cross Jesus cried out: My God, my God why have You forsaken Me? (cf. Matthew 27:46). God the Father could not bear to see His Son crucified on the Cross, and had to turn His face. *For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16).* This is God's greatest proof of His love for us.

Conversation with God our Father

Heavenly Father, thank You for letting Jesus reveal You to us. Thank You for creating us to be a part of Your family and to share in Your joy and glory. Thank You for salvation and redemption through Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Thank You for the wonderful plan that You have for each and everyone of us. Thank You for Your unfailing love despite my many sins and faults. May every beat of my heart be an act of love, adoration and thanksgiving to You. May I please You every day of my life by becoming more and more like Jesus. I consecrate myself to You through the United Hearts of Jesus and Mary. May my life be fruitful in accomplishing its true purpose and that is to return and render to You a love that is worthy of my Heavenly Father. In Jesus' Name I pray. Mary, Protectress of the faith, pray for me. Thank You Heavenly Father. Praise You Heavenly Father. I love You.