



Day 34: The Great Commission

Jesus – Sharing His Mission

“And Jesus came and said to them...Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28: 18-20

To be clear, the battle to live our mission is not our own. ‘Do not fear or be dismayed at this great multitude; for the battle is not yours but God’s.’ (2 Chronicles 20:15) This is good news! The profound truth of our identity and mission is that we share in the identity and mission of Jesus. In Matthew 28, Jesus proclaims to his followers the Great Commission. He bestows on His disciples a concrete mission to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them into the life of the Blessed Trinity. He didn’t stop there. Not long after Jesus’ Ascension into heaven, He sent His Holy Spirit to us at Pentecost. The Holy Spirit, in flames of fire, rushed upon Mary and the apostles, and marked a new era in the Church. The fire from heaven injects new life into the sons and daughters of God, first enkindling their own personal relationship with God, and then equipping them to be sent out on mission to bring salvation to the whole world. To put it simply, our sonship is not just about us; we are called to spread the fire of the Holy Spirit to the ends of the earth! “The kingdom of heaven has come near” (Matthew 3:2), and we are called to “take back territory” from the kingdom of the evil one through sharing the Gospel and the fire of charity! Yes, we share in the sonship of Jesus, and we also share in His own mission to save the world.

Mary, Mother of Mission

Mary, as the mother of Jesus, was very aware of her son’s vocation and mission. Yes, Scripture tells us that there were 30 years of preparation, but when Jesus was ready to start His public ministry, she stood by His side and reminded Him of who he was. The great Gospel story that captures this is the Wedding Feast of Cana (John 2:1-12). Mary, noticing that they have run out of wine at the wedding, approaches Jesus and asks Him to help. In a way, she helps usher in His mission as Savior and Redeemer! She proclaims to the servants: “Do whatever he tells you.” Msgr. Chavez tells us that the Guadalupe Event could be summarized by these words. With great confidence, she steps in and guides her son in this moment of His life and mission. Jesus, with great humility, allowed Himself to be led and realized that His time had come. “Jesus did this, the first of his

signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him (John 2:11)." Mary is the mother of Jesus, including a mother to Him in His mission.

St. Juan Diego and Us

You are personally called and commissioned by the Most High God. How humbling it is to be personally called by Jesus to share in His mission and fight His battles! He calls, He equips, and He even gives us the fire of His Holy Spirit to spread His victory in our time. In an amazing way, Our Lady of Guadalupe bestows a concrete mission for Juan Diego . to be her instrument to build a church to foster devotion to Jesus and bring salvation to the native people. Juan Diego is Mary's little son, but also called to do heroic and great things for others. Brother, not unlike St. Juan Diego, there is a unique mission in the Kingdom of God that only you can fulfill. Hear Our Lady say to you, "It is necessary that you, personally, go..." (*Nican Mopohua*, 58). There are real souls, real lives, eternal outcomes on the line. Insofar as you are faithful to your mission, souls will be saved, hearts will come to know the love of Christ. This is your true calling.

Prayer

O Jesus, we adore You, we love You, and we thank You for the gift of Your presence. You are the beloved Son of the Father, who perfectly fulfilled His mission to bring salvation to the world. Thank you for inviting us to share in Your very own mission as sons of the Father. Send us Your Holy Spirit as You did at Pentecost to fill us once again with Your fire and missionary zeal. We ask you now to hear this prayer.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of God and Mother of us, draw us close to your heart. As you helped St. Juan Diego to live his mission as your humble instrument to his people, come and help us to live our specific mission that God has given us. Please come and fill us with your love.

Amen.

After reading today's reflection, [pray the Litany of Restoration of Sonship](#).