

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Cycle C, October 31, 2010
(Wis. 11:22-12:2; 2 Thes. 1:11-2:2; Lk. 19:1-10)
Zacchaeus

Excuse me, my cell phone is ringing, pardon me.

Hello..... God is this really you?

Yes..... I believe you if you say so

You know that I am here at St. Paul's ready to give my homily

You know that, oh.....that's why you phoned.

You want to tell something to your people,... (pause).. .tell them that!

But they have heard that before; I don't know if that will fly

(Pause.....)

Okay, I'll let you be the judge

Tell them that you love them... personally and unconditionally, and you ask.....

that I accent those two words, **personally and unconditionally**

(Pause) and you love each and every one of them, regardless

But God they know your love for them

(Pause).....

You say they don't realize your love, that you love each one individually, as.....

A mother loves each one of her children

You say "I proved my love by the scars on my hands and feet, and my wounded side

These scars you say, are your "forget me nots" of your love.

(Gesture of outstretched arms here)

(Pause).....

Jesus, you say that we will have 4 surprises when we arrive in Heaven

1. That we are there
2. And there will be so many people there that we never expected to see
3. The third surprise is that you will both be surprised and amazed at my love.....my forgiveness, mercy and my understanding. Some seem to forget that I too had a "human nature." I had a "split personality," both human and divine. You will be delighted and again surprised by my **Human understanding.**
4. The fourth surprise when you float into Heaven, (I use the word "float" here because it is poetic, I am picturing a smooth transition, a casual adventure to Eternity,) ...so when you float into Heaven the first words you will hear are, "welcome and well done, welcome into my Kingdom of Heaven, welcome and well done my faithful servant. Enter the Kingdom of Heaven." The two key words by Jesus to each one of us is "Welcome and well done."

(Pause).....

Tell them that I love each one of them so much, I will not allow them to remain where they are. I love them so much, I will not allow them to remain where they are.

(Pause).....

Lord you haven't taken up too much of our time, please stay with us

(Pause).....

That's beautiful Lord, your final, and farewell gesture to each one of us is:

You say, "I'll see you in Heaven. I'll see you in Heaven."

And Lord, we all hope to see you in Heaven.

Amen.