

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

Sirach 15:15-20; Psalm 119; 1 Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37

"WE CHOOSE WHO WE BECOME"

Introduction:

Today's readings invite us to look honestly at our choices — not only what we do, but who we are becoming within. **The Word of God reminds us that faith is lived in everyday decisions:** in how we speak, how we treat others, and how we respond when no one is watching. Jesus Christ calls us beyond **surface obedience** into a **transformed heart** that reflects God's wisdom and love.

From these readings, four key messages emerge for our reflection today:

1. Freedom means responsibility

Sirach reminds us that God created us with the **gift of free will**. Each day He places before us **real choices** — life or death, good or evil. Our decisions are not small; **they shape the direction of our lives and the kind of people we become**. When we choose what is right, our integrity becomes a quiet but powerful witness to others.

2. Righteousness goes deeper than rules

In the Gospel, Jesus Christ teaches that He did not come to abolish the Law but to bring it to its fullness. He shifts our focus from **outward actions to inner attitudes** — not only avoiding murder, but letting go of anger; not only avoiding adultery, but guarding the purity of the heart. In this way, **Christianity is revealed not simply as a set of rules to follow, but as a call to deep inner transformation**.

3. God looks at the heart

Saint Paul the Apostle teaches that **God's wisdom is revealed through the Spirit**, not merely through human understanding. True holiness, therefore, is not about outward performance but about inner transformation. Through prayer, honest self-examination, and openness to the Holy Spirit, our thoughts and intentions are gradually shaped to reflect God's will — even in the quiet moments when no one else sees.

4. Simple honesty builds a just society

Under the guidance of Jesus Christ, we hear the simple but demanding call: **"Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes' and your 'No' mean 'No.'"** Honest speech is more than good manners — it is the foundation of trust. When our words are reliable, relationships become stronger, workplaces more just, and communities more peaceful. A society flourishes where people keep their promises and speak truth with integrity — in offices, markets, and homes alike.

Conclusion

As we reflect on these readings, we are invited to choose life each day through **integrity of heart, purity of intention, and honesty in word**. God's wisdom is not distant; it is lived in our concrete choices and relationships. When we allow our hearts to be transformed and our actions to reflect that inner change, we become **quiet witnesses of hope and trust** in our *homes, workplaces, business, communities, church and nations* at large. May it be our prayer that, **our daily decisions reveal a faith that is not only professed, but truly lived. Amen!**

By Fr. Tesha, OP.