

Nineteenth Sunday of the Year

Jesus trusts us

INTRODUCTION

Have you ever trusted someone to do something and then been disappointed to find that it has not been done? Jesus trusted his disciples to carry on his work when he had gone.

SIGN OF THE CROSS

LIGHT THE CANDLES

Light the candles and then read:

The light has come into the world, but wicked people who do wrong love the darkness and hide from the light. Whoever is honest and good is not afraid of the light, because they live as God wants them to and have nothing to hide. (John 3:19–21)

SORRY

Lord Jesus, Peter denied you three times,
but you forgave him.

We ask your forgiveness
for the times we deny you
and turn away from your love.

(Allow the children a few moments of quiet prayer.)

GLORIA

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

To welcome today's Gospel sing Acclamation 2.

GOSPEL (LUKE 12:41–48)

One day Jesus told this story: "A man gave orders to his two servants, and trusted them to be carried out while he was away. One servant did what his master had told him, even though he did not know when his master would return. The other servant betrayed his master's trust and did not carry out his wishes.

"When the master returned unexpectedly, the good and trustworthy servant was generously rewarded, but the other servant was punished and sent away."

DISCUSSION

The master trusted his servants to carry out his orders while he was away. One of the servants did what his master asked. The other servant was lazy, however, and without his master to watch him, he avoided the work he had been given to do.

Jesus said: "You are my friends if you do what I command. I chose you to go out and bear fruit which will last forever. You will be my witnesses because you have been with me from the beginning." (John 15:14–16, 27)

Jesus trusted his disciples to carry on his work when he had gone: curing the sick, forgiving sinners, performing miracles in his name, and sharing the good news of Christ with the world.

After the Holy Spirit came to the disciples at Pentecost, they went out and began to teach the Gospel to the world. They did what Jesus had asked them to do and shared everything they had seen and heard with others.

Who is trusted to do the work of Jesus today? Each one of us, in our own way, has a part to play in sharing the good news of the Gospel with other people. As Christians, we are followers, or disciples, of Christ. Just as the first disciples were trusted, so Jesus trusts each one of us to carry on his work.

In our own way, we can share Christ's message with others: by our words and actions; and by being kind, forgiving, and loving, just as Jesus was.

If we have been trustworthy, we will be generously rewarded for our loyalty and goodness by sharing in the joy and happiness of everlasting life.

ACTIVITY

Copy the activity sheet and help the children to fill in the blanks and color the page.

CREED

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, send your Holy Spirit
to each one of us
so that we can carry on the work
that you have trusted to us.

Write down the first letter of each object to find out what Jesus trusts us to do.

