

## Commentary on the Gospel for Tue, Jun 18th 2024

### Love Without Boundaries

Ahab and Jezebel committed a grave crime against Naboth to seize his property. Retribution was imminent, but Ahab's genuine repentance delayed punishment after performing acts of repentance and penance.

However, today's Gospel teaches us that love should be the guiding force. It does not mean that we should ignore justice, but rather, even when justice is served, there is always space for forgiveness.

Jesus challenges us to love without boundaries. He says, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." To love those who cause us pain, to show kindness even to those who oppose us is not easy.

But why? Why should we love our enemies? Jesus provides a compelling answer: "That you may be children of your Father in heaven." Our love mirrors our divine roots and family connection; we are God's children! Like God, who blesses all with sunlight and rain regardless of righteousness, we, as His children, have the honor to emulate Him by showing unconditional love.

"Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect". Being perfect isn't about flawless performance, it's about embracing fullness of love without limits or conditions. Jesus also gives three practical guidelines to live out this love without boundaries.

First, pray for those who wrong you. Sincerely ask for blessings and understanding. Prayer changes our outlook and connects us with God's heart.

Second, extend acts of kindness: Go the extra mile. Surprise even those who oppose you with unexpected gestures of kindness, such as a smile, assistance, or words of support. Show them the same love you show yourself.

Third, practice forgiveness: It is the foundation of limitless love. Let go of resentment. Choose to forgive out of love, not obligation. Let's emulate our divine parentage by loving limitlessly, just like our heavenly Father.

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