

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C - RCLB Lectionary



Lectionary: 120

Read the Gospel: <u>Luke 12:49-53</u>

Gospel Summary

As Jesus announced his mission, he made it clear that there would be no compromising. Called to repentance and challenged to be ready, discipleship would most likely divide households and communities. He knew already that there were divisions among the Jewish leaders. He warned his followers that they, too, might face divisions among their own families. While these repercussions would cause pain, it would also mark the coming of God's Kingdom.

Reflection for Families

Sometimes we have to take an unpopular stand against the ideas of others. When we say "no" to someone who wants to hear "yes," division is created. Parents make decisions that serve a purpose and guide the formation of their children. Friends may say "no" to each other creating division. Of course, healing and reconciliation are vital to the growth of all relationships; and this is basically the same concept as today's Gospel. There will be hard and unpopular acts associated with following Jesus. As a loving parent, God won't compromise the plan. As loving family members, we also understand God's motive!

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

Find a family movie that illustrates this Gospel message: Doing something that's right even though it's difficult and sometimes unpopular. One possibility is from *Lion King* when Simba decides to return home. Share your ideas about what was hard for Simba in his decision. Who helped him? Who suffered because of his decision? Who benefited? What divisions were evident and what reconciliations took place? Think about ways our own lives are like this and share your ideas with one another.

Discussion Starters

- 1. One place where I have seen the results of the fire Jesus lit on earth is . . .
- 2. When someone challenges my religious beliefs, I generally . . .
- 3. One very hard decision I had to make but knew it was the right one happened when. . .