

*“If anyone has ears to hear, let him listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.”*

*Revelations 2: 29*



**SCRIPTURE**  
*of the DAY*

Wisdom 7: 7-11

Psalms 89: 12-17

Hebrews 4: 12-13

Mark 10: 17-30 or 10: 17-27

The man who came to Jesus wanted to know how he might inherit eternal life. Jesus' instructions to him are clear. The man has to live according to the commandments of God. Then, there is another prerequisite: "Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor; and... then, come, follow me."

In other words, while it is important for us to keep the commandments of God, this does not necessarily make us disciples of Jesus. It may make us a "religious" person or a "Christian". But to be a disciple, however, demands more from us. Firstly, we have to give up all that we have. Unless and until we are willing to surrender what gives us a sense of security, social status and self-dependency, we cannot be a disciple.

Secondly, we have to be one with the poor and for the poor. In doing so, we will be able to live out the commandment of Jesus to love God and to love neighbour. By detaching ourselves from everything and giving up what we have for the sake of the poor, we come to depend solely on God.

Truly, the call of Jesus to become his disciple is very demanding. It is a radical call. As in the words of the German theologian and pastor, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, "When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die." (The Cost of Discipleship).

Therefore, it is not enough for us to be a 'disciple' by name or by mere affiliation to the Church. To be true disciples, we have to live according to the teachings and values of Christ. But it also calls for us to go further – to be willing to give up all that we have and depend totally on God so as to be at the service of others.

So, we have to ask ourselves, "Am I a Christian or a disciple?" ✦

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

13 October 2024  
28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

# newbec

**SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD:  
CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF  
COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION (MATTHEW 5: 13-16).**



**MONTHLY FOCUS  
A SHARED MISSION  
TOWARDS A  
SYNODAL CHURCH**

## Am I A Christian Or A DISCIPLE?

The term "disciple" basically means a student or follower of a teacher. Christian discipleship, therefore, signifies someone who is a student or follower of Jesus Christ. We can often assume that because someone is a Christian he or she is a disciple of Christ. The gospel reading today reminds us that it may not be so.