

Celebrating Life in Communion with Christ

“A Story of Stewardship Blessings”



Two weeks ago, I was racing to St. Hubert's to say their 6pm Mass. Unfortunately, I left later than I should have and realized that I was going to be late. I began praying, asking God to either make time stand still or to find a way to get me to the church on time. As my car cruised down the highway, it did seem like the theory of relativity kicked in and time went slower. Even so, I arrived 5 minutes late, but my prayers were answered! The parish was going to have a mission and the mission preacher was speaking before Mass to invite everyone to the mission. I was dressed and ready to go before he finished, and no one had to wait for me so Mass could start.

I know you're probably wondering why we don't start more Masses on time here. It's not that we don't try to. And it's certainly not because I leave late. On any given Sunday, any number of things could go wrong which will cause one or more Masses to back up. But let's get back to the point: **Stewardship**.

The story of the cure of Peter's mother-in-law is somewhat enigmatic. For many people, they wonder why Peter would even want his mother-in-law cured. Well, family squabbles aside, there is also the Women's movement question as to why someone so recently sick should have to get up and wait on the men. Finally, the cynical among us wonder if Jesus was just curing her as a self-serving gesture so he could get something to eat!

Cynics and skeptics aside, look at what really happens in this Gospel. The disciples trust Jesus enough to tell him about the fever of Peter's mother-in-law. Because they trusted, Jesus healed her. She, thankful for the healing, immediately responded to the blessing she received by sharing her own gift of hospitality with Peter and his friends. The next day, Jesus prays and invites his disciples to go with him as he spreads the Good News throughout the region.

This is the recipe for a stewardship way of life. It is very simple; it is a step by step guide for practicing stewardship. I cannot make it any simpler than it is in the Gospel, so I will show you once more:

1. Trust God enough to tell Him what you need.
2. Recognize how God answers your prayer (it's not always how we expect to be answered).
3. Be thankful for the blessing you have been given and share your blessing because it is not meant for you alone.
4. Show your thankfulness in prayer.
5. Share with others the message of your blessings.

Do this, and you will be living stewardship.

Rejoice in Christ,

Fr Nick

Celebrando la Vida en Comuni3n con Cristo

“Un cuento de Bendiciones de Mayordomía”

Hace dos semanas, estaba avanzando a San Humberto para decir su misa de las 6pm. Desafortunadamente, me fui m1s atrasado que debera y realic3 que iba llegar tarde. Comenc3 a orar, pidi3ndole a Dios que parada el tiempo o que encontrada una manera de llegar a la iglesia a tiempo. Mientras que mi carro iba por la autopista, se parec3a como la teor3a de la relatividad comenz3 y el tiempo pasaba m1s lento. ¡Incluso as3 pues, llegu3 5 minutos tarde, pero mis oraciones fueron contestadas! La parroquia iba a tener una misi3n y el predicador de la misi3n esta hablando antes de misa para invitarle a todos a la misi3n. Estaba vestido y listo para empezar antes de que 3l acabara, y nadie tenido que esperar por mi as3 que la misa podr3a comenzar.

S3 que usted probablemente se est3 preguntando porqu3 no comenzamos m1s misas a tiempo aqu3. No es que no lo intentamos. Y ciertamente no es porque yo salgo tarde. En cualquier domingo dado, cualquier n3mero de las cosas podr3a ir mal que causar3n unas o m1s misas a atrasarse. Pero vamos volver de nuevo al punto: **Mayordom3a**.

La historia de la curaci3n de la suegra de Sim3n es algo enigm1tica. Para mucha gente, ellos se preguntan porqu3 Sim3n incluso desear3a a su suegra curada. Bien, poniendo las peleas familiares a un lado, tambi3n esta la pregunta del movimiento de las mujeres en cuanto el porqu3 alguien tan recientemente enfermo tendr3a que levantarse y servirles a los hombres. ¡Finalmente, el c3nico entre nosotros piensa si Jes3s estaba cur3ndola como un gesto auto-servicial para que 3l podr3a tener algo para comer!

C3nicos y esc3pticos a un lado, mira sobre lo qu3 realmente sucede en este Evangelio. Los disc3pulos confian en Jes3s bastante para decirle sobre la fiebre de la suegra de Sim3n. Porque confiaron, Jes3s la cur3. Ella, agradecida por la curaci3n, respondi3 inmediatamente a la bendici3n que recib3 ella compartiendo su propio regalo de la hospitalidad con Sim3n y sus amigos. El d3a siguiente, Jes3s ora y le invita a sus disc3pulos que vayan con 3l mientras que 3l riega la Buena Nueva a trav3s de la regi3n.

3sta es la receta para una manera de vida de mayordom3a. Es muy simple; es una gu3a paso por paso para la practica de mayordom3a. No puedo hacerlo m1s simple de lo que est3 en el Evangelio, pues le ense3ar3 una vez m1s:

1. Conf3e en Dios lo suficiente para decirle lo que necesita.
2. Reconozca c3mo Dios contesta su oraci3n (no es siempre lo que esperamos como respuesta).
3. Sea agradecido para la bendici3n que se le ha dado y que comparte su bendici3n porque no es para usted solamente.
4. Demuestre su agradecimiento en oraci3n.
5. Comparte con otras el mensaje de sus bendiciones.

Haga esto, y usted vivir3 la mayordom3a.

Regocij3monos en Cristo,

Padre Nicol1s