



Year C – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time: Marriage and Heaven

***{Start with reviewing the previous Meetings Challenge or discuss prior to sharing this week's challenge.}**

Let's Begin: Think about how the challenge went for the last session. What went well? What was difficult?

Opening Prayer:

Begin with a brief moment of silence shaking off any and all distractions or difficulties of the day and remembering that God is always with us.

Read: **Luke 20: 27-38** - <https://bible.usccb.org/> - 11/6/2022, refer to readings for dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome for 11/9/2025, 11/12/2028

After the Reading Conclude with this prayer:

Heavenly Father, I place my hope in Your desire for me to believe forever in Heaven. Purify my mind, heart, and soul so that I may desire You alone. Help me to let go of the things, people, experiences, and other attachments that keep me from fully loving You. Amen.

Reflection or Discussion Question:

1. What did you find interesting about this reading?

YouTube Video: Fr. Mike Schmitz – Why get married if it doesn't exist in heaven? (7:20 min)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7rMOjv7O7kg>

Reflection or Discussion Questions:

2. Have you ever considered what heaven will be like or if you'll have relationships with others in heaven?
3. Was the purpose of marriage that Fr. Mike outlined in the video new to you? In what ways? (Note: vocation of discipleship in the church; through this vocation, God and my spouse will help to change me into the person I am called to be so that I may get to heaven.)
4. Have you ever thought to yourself, "I have plenty of time in the future to focus on my faith. I'm simply too busy now?" In other words, I'll get around to praying, going to church more, reconciling with others, or studying faith when I have more time later? How do you think/feel this type of thinking affects our lives?
5. Fr. Mike shares that we can have access to the beatific vision now. Can you offer any tangible ways that it might be possible? (Note: [Click here](#) for more information on beatific vision.)
6. After discussing this video has your perspective on marriage or any vocation changed in any way? Has your perspective on heaven changed in any way? Has your desire to actively live out discipleship changed in any way?

Session Challenges: {Choose one or both}

- True joy will be found in heaven when we are fully united with God. Take time before the next meeting to reflect on if you are seeking God first. In your heart and deed, do you love God above everything else?
- Each morning, ask God to help you to love others as He loves you.

Closing Prayer: (Leaders: We recommended offering time during the closing prayer for participants to offer personal intentions.)

God, my Father, may we love You in all things and above all things. May we reach the joy which You have prepared for us in heaven. Help us to follow Your will in our vocations and actively seek out true discipleship in each present moment. Create in us a great desire to love one another as You love us and to share You with others so that they, too, may have access to Your great glory in the beatific vision. We ask all this in Jesus' name. Amen.

{Optional additional Readings} Sunday Reading 1: **2 Mc 7:1-2,9-14**; Sunday Reading 2: **2 Thes 2:16-3:5**