



Year A – 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time: What Belongs to God?

*(Start with reviewing the previous meeting's 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: **MT 22:15-21** - <https://bible.usccb.org/> - 10/22/2023, 10/18/2026, 10/21/2029

After the reading, conclude with this prayer:

Dear loving Father, we live in such a confusing world. Help us to identify what truly belongs to You and help us to reorient our lives to Your will. It is a daily struggle to turn from ourselves and devote fully to You. We beg You for Your mercy when we fail and ask for the gift of Your Supernatural Grace to help us walk the path that brings us to eternal happiness with You. Amen.

Reflection or Discussion Question:

1. Why do you think Jesus said “then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God” in the Gospel reading? Is there anything that does not belong to God?

YouTube Video: Giving Everything to God – Brother Malachy and Father Mark-Mary (8:17 min)

<https://youtu.be/TePeRACa4Kk>

Reflection or Discussion Questions:

2. What does “leave everything on the field” mean to you in relation to your everyday life?
3. Do you think going “all in” for Christ is a gamble? Why or why not? If not, then what holds you back?
4. Is there a particular saint or person who has inspired you to give Yourself entirely to God? What about the person did you find inspiring?
5. Do you agree with Brother Malachy that holding nothing back and giving everything is a joy? Why or why not?
6. Has there ever been a time in your life when you experienced joy through holding nothing back and giving everything?

Session Challenges: (Choose one or both)

- Spend time in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to identify where you are not giving everything to God in your life. Ask for clarity on what is holding you back and what the Lord wishes you to do about it. Decide to implement one tiny action to help you move toward giving yourself more fully to God in this area.
- Since everything belongs to God, look through your belongings, and make a donation to others that may have a greater need.

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

Note: Consider playing this song “All In” by Matthew West at the end to close the meeting out if you wish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0RwDpnKIvUI>

Holy Spirit, ignite in us a great desire to go “all in” for You! Help us to identify areas in our lives that we hold back from giving ourselves fully to You. Lead us, guide us and protect us against evil and temptations that pull us away from devoting ourselves completely to You. In Jesus Christ's name, Amen.

{Optional additional Readings} Sunday Reading 1: **IS 45:1, 4-6** Sunday Reading 2: **1 THES 1:1-5B**