

Prayer

FORGIVENESS BREAKS DOWN WALLS



VIDEO: THE WALL (IN SPANISH)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CID9Mj2zyZY&t=102s>

TEXT: Matthew 18, 21-35:

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”

Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times”.

Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold[b] was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. At this the servant fell on his knees before him. “Be patient with me,” he begged. “And I will pay back everything.” The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt, and let him go. But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. “Pay back what you owe me!” he demanded.

His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, “Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.” But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt.

When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. Then the master called the servant in. “You wicked servant,” he said. “I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?” In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

REFLECTION AND SHARING:

- » Think of all the times you have not forgiven lately...
- » Think of the people you have not asked for forgiveness...
- » Every time you do not forgive; you do not reconcile... You put a brick in the wall.
- » How high is your wall?
- » How can you break down your wall?

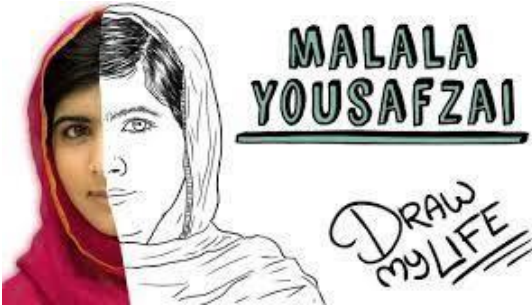
Prayer

STRUGGLE FOR PEACE AND EDUCATION



VIDEO: MALALA'S INCREDIBLE STORY (IN SPANISH)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8SXPoGhGoX8>



TEXT: MT. 5, 9

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

PRAYER:

COMFORT MY PEOPLE

Relief is needed for this wounded earth. For the weeping of the just, the senseless pain, the lies that bleed, the abandonments and loneliness. For so much injustice that leaves innocent victims. For the forced silence that no voice breaks, and for so much fatigue that finds no rest. A response transformed into a seed is needed, in a bandage, in a gesture of relief; in a shelter made of arms, in words that whisper forgiveness and hope, in contagious laughter, in a project of freedom, in justice fought for, in living faith. It is necessary anyone who wants to become a bearer of consolation, a prophet of a gospel without emptiness. **You are needed.**¹

(Jose M^a Rodríguez Olaizola)

¹ La traducción es mía. [N. del T.]

Prayer

EDUCATION IS AN ANTIDOTE TO INDIVIDUALISTIC CULTURE



VIDEO FOR FRANCISCO (IN ITALIAN):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XHzn1GTR2HU&feature=emb_logo

TEXT: JN. 15, 12-17

At that time, Jesus said to his disciples: “My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no

longer call you servants because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.”



Image translation: By saving so much on education, we have become millionaires in ignorance.

Prayer

WE TAKE CARE OF OUR HOME



VIDEO

Creation (in Spanish)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zN3UV6NP9Q0&feature=emb_logo

TEXT

*(of ENCYCLICAL LETTER
LAUDATO SI')*

Each community can take from the bounty of the earth what it needs for its survival, but it also has the duty to protect it and to guarantee the continuity of its fertility for future

generations. Because, in the final analysis, “the earth is the Lord’s” (Sal 24,1), to him belongs “the earth and everything in it» (Dt 10,14). Therefore, God denies any claim to absolute ownership: “the land must not be sold permanently, because the land is mine and you reside in my land as foreigners and strangers.” (Lv 25,23).

“Anything that happens to the Earth, will happen to Earth's children”.



Image translation: Our common home, our mother Earth is poisoned. She struggles to purify herself; because the air that the beings of life breathe is polluted.

Prayer

TO REBUILD THIS WORLD THAT HURTS US



VIDEO

Come closer (in Spanish)

<http://www.quierover.org/watch.php?vid=9c3a46913>

TEXT: LUKE 10, 25-37

“Teacher,” he asked. “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?” He answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind” and, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.” But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus. “And who is my neighbor?” In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him.

The next day he took out two denarii[e] and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’ ‘Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?’ The expert in the law replied. “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

COMMENTARY:

The parable of the Good Samaritan is an illuminating icon, capable of revealing the fundamental choice we need to make in order to rebuild this world that hurts us. In the face of so much pain, so many wounds, the only way out is to be like the Good Samaritan. Any other option ends up either on the side of the robbers or on the side of those who pass by without sympathy for the pain of the wounded man on the road. The parable shows us with what initiatives **a community can be rebuilt from men and women who make the fragility of others their own**, who do not allow a society of exclusion to be erected, but who make themselves neighbors and raise up and rehabilitate the fallen, so that the good may be common.

(Point 67 Encíclica Fratelli tutti)

REFLECTION:

Am I one of those people who lifts the one who falls?