

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)



Matthew 21:28–32

'He changed his mind and went.

The tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you.'

At that time: Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." And he answered, "I will not", but afterwards he changed his mind and went. And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, "I go, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterwards change your minds and believe him.'

Reflection

It is easy to say the right thing. We can promise to help, say we will get involved, or tell someone we will change, but what really matters is what we actually do.

In this Gospel, the first son initially says no, but changes his mind and goes to work. Jesus reminds us that our actions speak louder than our words. We will all get things wrong sometimes, but what matters is being willing to recognise it, change direction and try again.

This is an important part of being a Vincentian. Serving others isn't about saying we care; it is about putting that care into action.

Activity

Take some time to think back over the past few months. What needs or ideas have you noticed, either personally or as a Youth SVP group, that you said you would do something about but never got round to? This could be helping someone who is lonely, supporting a local community, visiting someone, or following up on an SVP project. Make a list together, then choose one thing you can actually act on.

Call to Action

Think of one small thing you've been meaning to do for someone else, and take the first step towards making it happen this week.

