

*Sunday Homily, 33rd Sunday, Nov 15, 2020*

*Good Morning! And how are you? Blessed indeed!*

*Now next week is Christ the King as we talked about last week and so we can prepare for the final judgement. And we get to the final judgement this is again in Matthew 25 and Matthew 25 is also the place where we get God divides the sheep and the goats. But here he talks as he prepares us for what's going to happen when we die. He tells us he gives his talents. Now everyone here has talents. Some have more; some have less. But everyone's talents that have been given to you and me are God's. They're not yours. Right? We got to remember that. Every talent God gave me he didn't give to me for Larry Richards, he gave for me for him. And so, everything we have, what we got to do is use it for him and to build up his kingdom and give it back to him in glory. Because when you and I stand before God in judgement he's going to ask us what we did with what he gave us. Did we put ourselves first? Did we take care of ourselves? Do we build up his kingdom or do we build up our kingdom? Do we waste our whole life on ourself or do we build it all on him and bring glory to him? Notice none of these people used the talents for themselves. They used them all for him so they could give them back to him. Right? And then, not only do they do that, but then they sit there and see the difference between a bad fear and a good fear. We often talk about the fear of the Lord people go around like this and I*

don't want to do anything when you act like that you will not be blessed. You'll be cursed by God. Only the one was afraid of the master so much that he just hid it because he was more afraid of the master than bringing him to the glory. He was only concerned about himself. When fear of the Lord focuses us on ourselves it's not from God. It's always from the evil one. The fear of the Lord should never focus you on yourself. It should always focus you on him. You want to please him. You fear to ever displease God. That when you come you want to make him proud if you will. You want to be able at the end of your life say Jesus the things you gave me I use them for your glory and I multiple them again and again and again. So, every gift that you and I have been given wasn't given to you for you. It was all given to you for him. And so that means whatever gift you have you got to be thinking am I doing this for the building of God's kingdom. And that means explicitly while a lot of us are in the middle of Covid right now we can't do the service we like to do I really want you to be praying while we're in this lockup again kind of. Lord what are my gifts and how do you want me to use them to build your kingdom. Again, it's always about God and others. It's never about me and mine.