

# **MORNING MEDITATION**

## **Monday, Thirty-first Week in Ordinary Time**

**My purpose is what I am living for and what I am dying for.**

### **Romans 11:29-36**

Paul continued to explain to the Christians in Rome that no one can be saved except through the mercy of God. God's purpose is a purpose of salvation, not destruction. The purpose of God can never be frustrated.

In this excerpt, Paul tells us, "God's gifts and his call are irrevocable..... God's ways are unfathomable..... from him and through him and for him all things are" .....to him be glory forever".

**Neither sin nor disobedience nor any act of man can frustrate the plan and purpose of God. Trust in God and surrender to God's plan and purpose for you.**

### **Psalms 69**

**I am afflicted and in pain;  
Let your saving help, O God, protect me.  
I will praise the name of God in song,  
And I will glorify him with thanksgiving.**

### **Luke 14:12-14**

Jesus taught his listeners to be generous and gracious in giving and in showing hospitality. He challenged them to give generously to those who are unable to return the favor, the cripples, the lame, the beggars and the poor.

You must give because it is your nature to give and not because there is a reward waiting for you. Giving is the quality of your person...you must learn to give because that is the kind of person you are...you must give even when there is no personal gain. Jesus called forth a new way of giving which made no claims, no conditions and no expectation of return.

**Be gracious! Be generous! Give without counting the cost!**

**Saint of the Day, November 3 – St. Martin de Porres and 22 other saints are remembered this day.**

Martin was born in Lima, Peru on December 9, 1579. His mother was black and his father was a wealthy Spanish noble who abandoned his wife and two children. Martin, his sister and his mother lived in poverty during the early years of their lives. At the age of 12, Martin became a barber. Barbers of those days did more than cut hair. They set broken bones, dressed wounds, prescribed healing herbs, etc. They were healers of body as well as troubled minds.

Martin won the trust of people and became a helper at the Dominican monastery. Some felt that he shouldn't be in the monastery because he was black and others encouraged him because of his knowledge and kindness. At the age of 24, he became a Dominican brother and spent his life caring for the poor, the sick, the homeless and the helpless. He had a deep reverence for birds, animals, trees and all of God's creation. He died on November 3, 1639, in Lima, Peru. Let us draw inspiration from the humble and self-sacrificing life of Martin.

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