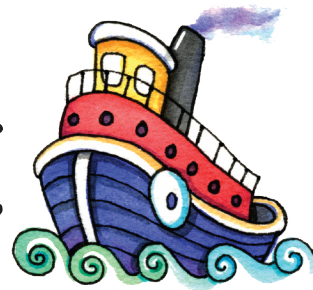


The Catholic Tugboat

A Children's Guide to God



August 16, 2020 Cycle A, 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Volume V, Issue 38

Buried Treasures



Did Jesus call the Canaanite woman in today's Gospel reading a dog?! The quick answer is, 'No, not as we think of it.'

Jesus' mission was to, first, take His message of salvation to the Jewish people. The Canaanite people were traditional enemies of Israel, and so this woman was

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

Psalms 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8

Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

Matthew 15:21-28

a **Gentile** (a non-Jewish person). Yet she believed in Jesus enough to address Him as, "Lord, Son of David."



When Jesus tells her, "It is not right to take the food of children and throw it to the dogs," the word he uses tells the woman that He needs to feed those at the table first, not the

'family pet.' When the woman heard this word, she reminded Jesus that, 'even the family pets are under the table to eat.'

Jesus is astounded and heals her daughter, reminding everyone that, 'all who believe in Jesus are part of God's family and can sit at the table.'



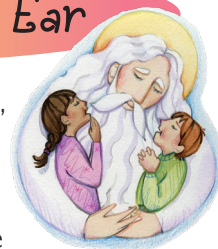
Catholic I.D.

Each day, we try to practice virtue, the habit of doing the right thing. This begins with learning how to be honest, with others and ourselves. This trains us to recognize the truth when we hear it, and this trains us to recognize untruth and lies when we hear them.

As we get older, other people will try to convince us that some of God's truths are not true. We must stay strong and hold on to the truths He gave us so that we are not deceived by errors, falsehoods, and lies. Only His truth will bring us to heaven. (CCC 2089)

From Your Lips to God's Ear

After God feeds us with His Word, and the Holy Eucharist, it is time for us to prepare ourselves to go into the world. This is like preparing for battle: we arm ourselves with faith, and hope, and love. We take with us His Word and His Presence within us. We are now ready to bring God to others.



Memorize the following prayer and use it each morning to help you prepare for the day:

**"Angel of God, my guardian dear,
To whom God's love commits me here.
Ever this day (night) be at my side,
To light and guard, to rule and guide.
Amen"**

Our Salvation History: From Judges to Kings

When David had to leave the Philistine camp, he learned that Israel's old enemy, the Amalekites, had captured Israelite land and kidnapped his wives. David and his troops beat down the Amalekites and destroyed all of their possessions, something Saul had failed to do when God commanded it.

At this same time, Saul was fighting the Philistines, and, as the Witch had prophesied, he lost. Badly wounded, Saul 'fell on his sword,' and some of his sons, including Jonathan, died in battle as well. On learning of Saul's and Jonathan's deaths, David was deeply saddened and composed a song expressing his sorrow.

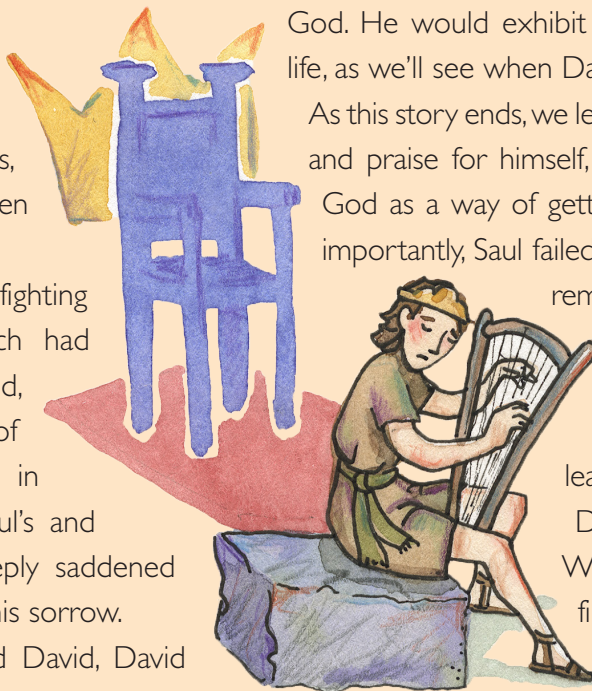
Despite how badly Saul treated David, David

regarded Saul as the anointed king and respected him. David believed in loyalty, especially loyalty to God. He would exhibit this virtue throughout his life, as we'll see when David becomes king.

As this story ends, we learn that Saul wanted power and praise for himself, and saw being favored by God as a way of getting what he wanted. More importantly, Saul failed to obey God. He failed to

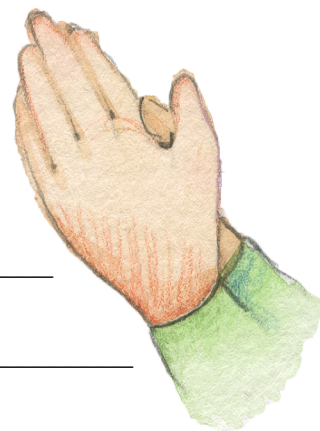
remember that Israel belonged to God and not to an anointed king. Saul marks the end of Israel's military leaders.

David would be different. With David, Israel would finally get the king she wanted.



Tugboat Challenge

Take some time to write your own brief prayer to God, asking Him to help you prepare for the day:



Imprimatur: Most Reverend Richard F. Stika, Bishop, Diocese of Knoxville, July 8, 2020. The Imprimatur ("Permission to Publish") is a declaration that the work is considered to be free of doctrinal or moral error. It is not implied that those who have granted the Imprimatur agree with the contents, opinions or statements expressed.

©2020 *The Catholic Navigator* • All rights reserved. Distribution rights granted to license holders solely for print copy. • For source materials go to www.TheCatholicNavigator.org
Excerpts from the English translation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church for use in the United States of America, © 1994, United States Catholic Conference, Inc. -- Libreria Editrice Vaticana.
Used with Permission

Graphic design by Nancy Chifala Design • Illustrations by Jenifer Schneider