



PRAY, PONDER, PREACH AND PRACTICE THE WORD OF GOD

Facilitated by Racine Dominican Preaching Committee August 2025

Summer School

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Think summer school is behind you...?
Not this one...for we are all in the School
of Discipleship. So, what are our August
lessons? What does Holy Elder the Church
want us to gather around and re-learn?



The Sunday gatherings have important
points that all Disciples-in-Formation need
to ponder. First, Don't be a Fool. What? Right. The Fool thinks his/her life depends on
stuff. Second, Stay Awake. Notice who needs you. Be ready to help out. Third, listen for
the Shepherd's voice...all others might mislead. Fourth, keep your Eyes on the Prize. If
you lose hold on your personal relationship with the Christ, you'll end up in a detour.
And finally, Find your Place. You may not belong at the head of the table. You might fit
better at the kid's table, laughing with them.

Are you a wreck? Unfit to be out in public? Traumatized, depressed, despairing? Weak,
broken and battered? Come...here's a seat next to me. Are you rejoicing, celebrating,
and so grateful? Come...I need to sit next to you.

The Sunday liturgy is a weekly return to our baptismal commitment. It is the heart of
our belonging. Don't be absent...we will not be the same without you...

Yup...I'll be there.
Will bring all those I love with me.
Will bring everything I've bought or sold,
lost or given away.
Are you happy to see me...?
Good.

Thank you to S. Sharon Simon for this month's reflections.

**August 3, 2025 | Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23,
Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11, Luke 12:13-21**

Do not be foolish! Things of this world are wonderful but passing. Things of heaven endure eternally. If we have a dependent relationship with things to give us our identity and security then we take a stance of independence from the Giver. If we possess things strictly as gifts then we grow increasingly dependent upon the Giver and more free from the need to have, or keep or worry about. Wisdom knows what is; whence it comes and wither it takes us. Be rich in what matters to God.

August 10, 2025 | Wisdom 18:6-9, Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19, Luke 12:32-48

Entrusted with gifts, expectations are greater. We are invited to move away from the allurements of this world as well as the inclinations of their selfish ways, which are so attractive. Because spiritual treasure will last for eternity, this is where we strive to put our heart. If we have faith in God, then we are chosen to play first-string and do those things that are appropriate to our identity. We work to promote and receive Kingdom ways.

**August 17, 2025 | Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10,
Hebrews 12:1-4, Luke 12: 49-53**

Jeremiah is in deep trouble! He heard God's call and paid the price for his decision to be faithful. Decisions can create divisions within. Some days feel like we are in cistern-like accommodations facing challenging decisions. We are challenged to live faithful to how we hear God's call. The race includes living according to the values of our Christian life, keeping our gaze on Jesus. The message remains the same: we must persevere in our belief, keeping the fire of faith alive, burning with warmth and brightness.

**August 24, 2025 | Isaiah: 66:18-21,
Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13, Luke 13:22-30**

How large is your God's ranch? God's ranch is larger than miles and the invitation to come has no boundaries. Boundaries of fear, doubt and selfishness can limit any response to the invitations. The more we affirm being identified through Jesus, the more we are available and faithful to reach out to all. God's glory is revealed through God's creative power that depends on our response. We are who we are by God's embrace, ever ready for something greater.

**August 31, 2025 | Sirach: 3:17-18, 20, 28-29,
Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24, Luke 14:1, 7-14**

Find your place! We remember who we are and who we are not. We remember a Divine Giver gifts us. Wisdom is recognizing this and seeing all relating - nature, others, and ourselves. Wisdom guides us to the reality of accepting our limitations and focus on enjoying the feast, appreciating the company around us.