

**Homily Notes**  
**Fr. James Flynn**  
**Sunday, September 25, 2011**

**Answering God's Call to Serve Him**

**“The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting; it has been found difficult and left untried.”**

— G.K. Chesterton

Answering God's call to serve him is often very difficult. In today's Gospel (**Matthew 21: 28 - 32**) the owner of the field asks his two sons to go out and work in the vineyard. One says he will and doesn't, and the other says he won't but does. Let's take a closer look at this in light of God asking us to do his will. First let's break down the situation and put names to the different parts:

**Who is the father/owner of the field?**

God, of course.

**Who are the son's?**

Us, of course

**What is the vineyard?**

The world made up of both believers and unbelievers.

**Who planted the vineyard?**

God (the father)

**Who benefits most?**

The son's, they get the benefit of understanding what it takes to run the vineyard. They gain greater knowledge of their father's sacrifice to provide for them.

**Is the father trying to help or punish them by making them work?**

He is trying to help them. He wants them to be active participants in the vineyards so they can reap the rewards of their hard work and someday inherit what the father worked so hard to build up. If they are not prepared then the father will sell the vineyard to someone who is.

**What about me?**

**Do I do God's will when he asks?**

**Do I always have a reason or excuse not to do God's will?**

**Do I willingly and gladly give of my talents for care of His world?**

**Do I view doing God's will as a benefit or a punishment?**

**Do I understand that God will not give me my inheritance if I don't do his will?**

**In my own life have I found God's will difficult and left untried?**

