



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – AUGUST 3, 2025

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23 Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11 Luke 2:13-21

A couple weeks ago the golf world focused on the Open Championship being held in Ireland. The Open is the oldest golf tournament in the world. The winner would be titled the Champion Golfer of the Year. The favorite was Scottie Scheffler.

He won and continued his dominance in the golf world.

But his pre-tournament press conference probably got more air time than his win at the Open. At the press conference he stated that golf “is not a fulfilling life.”

He said, “This is not a fulfilling life. It’s fulfilling from the sense of accomplishment, but it’s not fulfilling from a sense of the deepest places of your heart.”

People took it out of context, but he reflected the wisdom of Ecclesiastes, our first reading.

What he meant was he is thankful for playing professional golf, as it is a dream come true for him. But you win or lose a golf tournament and you are on to the next tournament.

What fulfills his life is his relationships, especially with his wife, Meredith, and his son, Bennett, and other family and friends, and specially with the Lord. At the press conference, he said, “I believe in Jesus. Ultimately, I think that’s what defines me the most.”

Great to have a famous person who is willing to speak up about what is important.

If our work is the most important thing in our life – no matter what our age – we should hear Qoheleth, “Vanity of vanities, all things are vanity...for what profit comes to the man from all the toil and anxiety of heart...?”

Not much. Not even if you build a bigger barn to store all your grain, like the rich man in the gospel.”

Think of the many storage businesses that exist just to store our stuff.

The key is not that money or possessions are a sin in themselves, but it is sinful when our money and possessions possesses us. When we turn away from the opportunity to help someone in need and just build a bigger “barn” – so to speak.

All of us have probably done that at one time.

I encourage all of us to go to “the deepest place of your heart,” as Scottie mentioned. What’s truly important in our lives?

Do we need to make some changes?

May we put the love and energy into our relationship with the Lord, our family, our friends and those in need.

Thanks for listening.

Bringing Home the Word Prayer