

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

Amos 8:4-7 1 Timothy 2:1-8 Luke 16:1-13

The gospel has a parable of a rich man who has a steward who was squandering the property of the rich man.

I would like to address briefly about our role as stewards. The rich man for us is the Lord and we are the stewards of the gifts the Lord has given to each one of us, no matter our age.

We each have a treasure; financially, our talents we have been blessed with and developed and, of course, our time, we only get 24 hours a day no matter who we are.

I like to refer to the movie **Schindler's List** (1993), a long movie and hard to take in as it is the story of Oskar Schindler saving 1,100 Polish Jews from death in World War II. The Nazi want to kill all of them because they are Jews. The Nazis killed six million Jews; it is called the Holocaust.

Schindler realized his immense wealth could be used to save Jewish men, women and children. He hires them for his factories and seeks any reason to save Jews from the Nazi concentration camps.

The movie plot is a complicated story, but I want to focus on the closing scenes as we look at ourselves as stewards of God's gifts.

On YouTube you can watch a short film of the closing of the movie called "I Didn't Do Enough." As he is leaving the Jews at the end of the war, Oskar laments that if he would have sold his car or a gold pin, he could have saved more Jews. He didn't do enough, he believes. The Jews offer him support with a signed thank you from them and a ring that is engraved with the quote, "Whoever saves one life saves the world entire."

The movie ends with an emotional scene as well, at least for me. Actual survivors or their relatives visit the real grave of Oskar Schindler and place a stone on his gravestone, which is a sign of respect for him. "Whoever saves one life saves the world entire."

So, back to us, we are not called upon to save the world, but maybe one person at a time.

Might be the compassion you show to a classmate in your classroom. A co-worker who needs help in a difficult time. A charity that you have always been impressed by but we have sat on the sidelines; but now become involved; hands-on and/or financially.

The Lord – life - will give us plenty of opportunities to help that one person. We need to remember, "Whoever saves one life saves the world entire."

I close with a quote from Gary Player, a hall of fame golfer and a man who has helped many people over the years. He said this:

I think the difference comes when you realize that what you have is really just on loan to you. The talent and success we have, it's just on loan and it can be taken away tomorrow. True success is judged by your relationship with your fellow human beings. With great success comes great responsibility. (Player, Gary. Gary Player's Black Book: 60 Tips on Golf, Business, and Life from the Black Knight (p. 27). Skyhorse)

Prayer: Bringing Home the Word