

*«What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He came to the first and said, “Son, go out and work in the vineyard today”. He said in reply, “I will not”, but afterwards he changed his mind and went. The man came to the other son and gave the same order. He said in reply, “Yes, sir”, but did not go. Which of the two did his father’s will?». They answered, «The first».*

*Jesus said to them, «Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did.*

*Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him».*

A very brief thought to accompany the reading of this Gospel which deserves a thorough reflection.

The first thought is that **in front of God we are all his children**: God is the Father of all men, good and bad, as he himself said in the Sermon on the Mount (cf. Mt 5-7): *be like Your Father who makes the sun shine on the good and the bad.*

God, therefore, loves everyone, he would like to help everyone, he would like to be in communion with everyone, but this communion, this friendship, this intimacy, **depends only on us**, not on God.

**God never withdraws from us, on the contrary we withdraw from Him.**

The teaching, the example that Jesus gives, reminds him: there are some who are always ready to say yes, to make promises, to attend the Church, to do everything that is prescribed, but then they do their own business, that is, they do not put God’s Word into practice.

There are others, however, who are apparently distant, rebellious and yet, at a certain point, manage to accept the invitation of the Lord, as these prostitutes did when John the Baptist brought them the announcement.

**Here, let’s try to understand what kind of characters we are:**

- **we are the enthusiastic ones, who then make themselves comfortable,**
- **or are we the ones who find it a bit difficult to say yes, but then obey?**

Praise to the Lord Jesus Christ