

Daily Homily
St. Gregory the Great; Pope, Doctor of the Church
Memorial
Twenty-Second Week in Ordinary Time, Thursday
3 September 2020
[USCCB Daily Readings](#)

The word “everything” has been frequently coming up in my prayer lately.

Today, we hear it in the Gospel of Luke. It’s the last line. “...they left everything and followed him.” By way of contrast, in Matthew and Mark’s Gospel when Jesus called these disciples it indicates that they only left father and nets to follow Jesus. Luke is clear, “everything” they left to follow Him who called.

This is Luke’s way of driving home the point that there needs to be an emphatic, complete, and whole YES to the call of Christ. Jesus is demanding on those who follow him. To the point where “everything” is left behind so that they could go forward with the Lord.

Mother Theresa heard her call to a religious life. She became a Sister of Loreto and taught girls for many years. Then she experienced the “call within the call.” She ventured into the deep waters of forming her own religious community, the Missionaries of Charity. She left everything and then she left everything again.

Every day we are called to follow Jesus. We may have our plan, our schedule, our checklist for the day, but so does Jesus for our day and for our life. Are we just as willing to leave our “everything” in order to follow him? What we want to do, what we want to accomplish, whatever our goals are, can we follow him into His everything? After all, His plan and schedule and checklist is always better.