

28<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)  
October 11, 2009

But wait, there's more!

We've all heard this before, haven't we?

Perhaps, most of us assimilate this saying with all the famous inventions that Ron Popeil thought of.

The Chop-o-matic that slices, dices, and juliennes, the hair-in-a-can that makes one look young again, and the pocket-fisherman that allows one to go fishing wherever and whenever one finds the need are just some of the great ideas that have come from Ron Popeil.

And every time we've hear an advertisement for one or more of these great inventions that we just can't live without, we usually hear the phrase, "But wait, there's more!"

Once we hear this, we know there's something else / something more that accompanies the product for sale.

For instance, if we act now, not only will we get a mop that sweeps up dirt and wipes up spills, but we'll also get a feather duster that can reach those tough corners in our homes.

But wait, there's more!

They'll also throw in a free towel that miraculously soaks up the nastiest spills.

And it usually doesn't end here...there's always something more the companies are willing to do for us to get us to buy their products.

Well, we see a similar message in today's Gospel reading.

But, unlike those infomercials we see on T.V., Jesus' product he's advertising is completely free of cost.

The rich man in the Gospel reading today who had many possessions wanted to inherit eternal life like so many other people.

Jesus' response to him was to basically follow the letter of the law.

The man responded that he was already doing this and Jesus' response to him was, "But wait, there's more!"

Jesus tells him to sell everything, give to the poor, and follow him.

This task was too great for the rich man and he went away sad because he simply was not ready to give away all his possessions – he was too attached to them.

As the Gospel continues, Jesus tells his disciples that it is "hard" for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God...not impossible, but "hard."

His disciples respond by asking, "Then who can be saved?"

Again, Jesus tells them, "But wait, there's more! For human beings it is impossible, but not for God. All things are possible for God."

In other words, our salvation is only possible because God graciously, lovingly, and freely gave it to us and we did nothing to deserve it.

Lastly, Peter tells Jesus, "We have done all this – we have given up everything to follow you."

And one last time, Jesus responds, "But wait, there's more! Those who have given up everything – house, brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, children, and land – will not only receive everything back, but they will receive everything back times a hundred in eternal life!"

And so, the next time we become content and we think we've gone as far as we can go and we're following Jesus as best as we can, let's remind ourselves, "But wait, there's more!"