

Jesus says: "Guard against all greed."

GREED is excessive desire....desire for more than one's proper share. For example, advertising seduces us into wanting more. In fact, advertisers want to persuade us that we need more. Buy, buy, buy. It feeds a spirit of greed.

Another example: Think about all of the places we see signs: "All you can eat." It's no longer a matter of satisfying hunger or a basic need. It's how much we CAN eat; not "Come, satisfy your hunger."

A last instance of greed is for experiences; doing more and more and more. So much to do; so little time. As a result, we have a country full of persons who lack adequate sleep....a basic need.

The healing remedy for greed is gratitude; being thankful for who we are and for what we have.

Make no mistake about it: Need is good. Desire is good. Wanting is good. At the same time these can go beyond a good and turn into greed. Jesus invites and challenges us to "Guard against all greed." That is, to be vigilant; to pay attention to our needs, desires and wants. Some of the areas that this includes are: possessions, wealth, food, and experiences.

As disciples of Christ, one of our life-long struggles is to learn: what is enough; what truly satisfies; what is sufficient for health of mind, body and spirit.

This week, "Guard against all greed." Be thankful for who we are and for all we have.

My sisters and brothers: The greater our gratitude, the lesser our greed. This is GOOD NEWS!