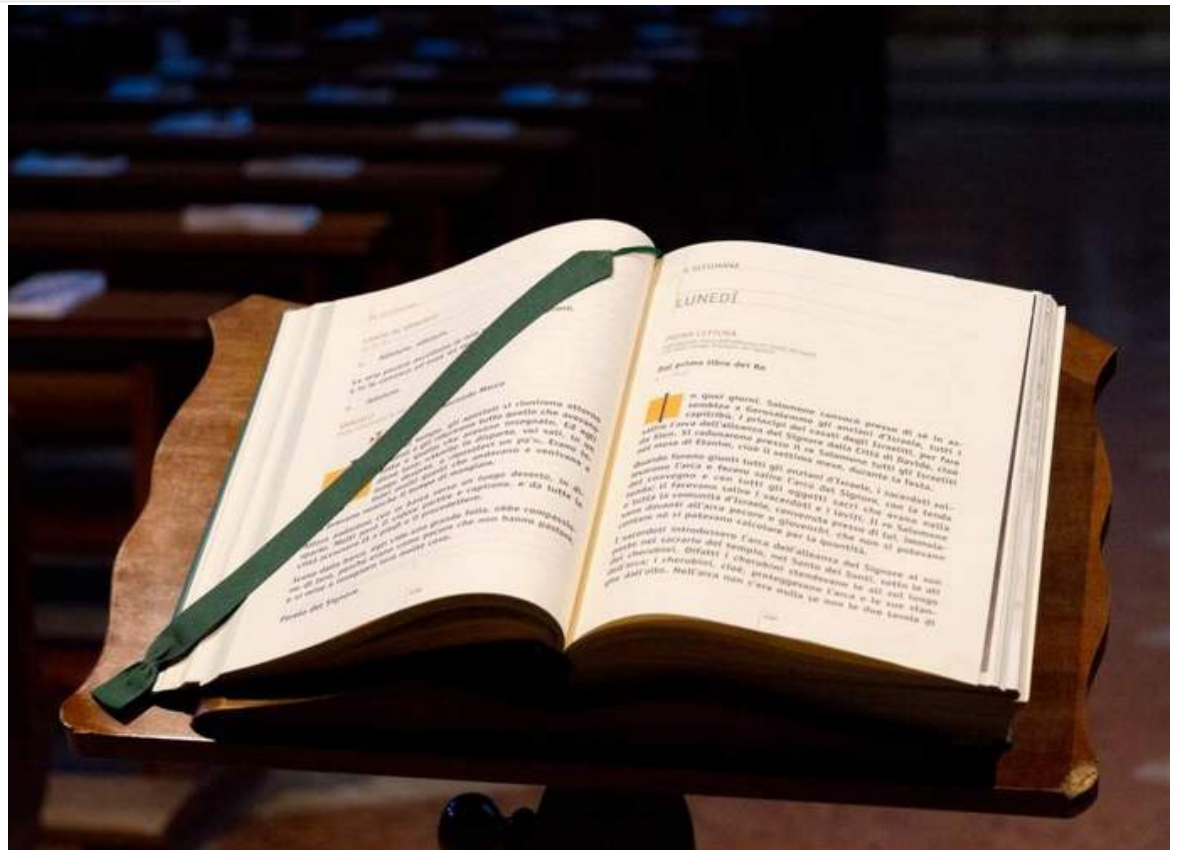


GOSPEL PEARLS

## Words, words, words

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27\_09\_2020



*“What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’ ‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. “Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go. “Which of the two did what his father wanted?” “The first,” they answered. Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And*

*even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.. (Matthew 21: 28-32)*

Jesus wants to teach us that our thoughts and behaviour are much more important than our words. If words are not followed by deeds, they are perfectly useless. On the contrary, if at first, we have rejected God's will, but then put it into action, it means that we have converted in our hearts. Conversion is precisely what Jesus calls us to. Let us commit ourselves so that the words with which we promise fidelity to Jesus are consistent with what we profess as believers, regardless of their consequences, even if unpleasant.