



Archdiocese of San Antonio

Most Reverend Gustavo Garcia-Siller



**Homily - Catholic Men's Conference
February 13, 2016**

There are many stereotypes that the world has for us men. They say we don't ask for directions, that we are very competitive, and that we really like to eat meat! There is another one I hear a lot, and I'm not sure if it is true for you: Men don't like to go to the doctor. Now, I'm not going to tell you if that is the case for me, but I will repeat the Lord's words to you: "Those who are healthy do not need a physician, but the sick do. I have not come to call the righteous to repentance but sinners." Maybe you do not like to go to the doctor, but you definitely need to see the divine physician.

Two things are certain: All of us are sinners and all of us are called to be saints. Each one of us is called to be what Isaiah said: "Repairer of the breach" and "Restorer of ruined homesteads." We are called to bring forward the kingdom of God on the earth. We are called to bring healing to our families, to bring healing at our workplaces and schools, to bring light to those in darkness, to remove

oppression, bring food to the hungry, and welcome to the stranger. This is our purpose, but we are also sinners who are often selfish and insecure. So what do we do?

We call upon the Lord! We call upon him who is our salvation when we are too weak to do as we have been called to do. There are times that the devil tries to convince us that we do not need to go to Jesus the divine physician, but he is a liar. Jesus is always merciful, always ready to forgive and to heal. There is nothing keeping us from being healed and loved by Christ Jesus, and to share that love with the world.

As Pope Francis has told us, those dark moments in our life should find us “praying for the desire to do God’s will and praying to know God’s will... To carry out that will, which is not my own, it is His will.” God hears our prayers, and he wants us to follow him. He knows our weaknesses, even if we will not admit them to ourselves. So my brothers, I ask you, are you ready to see the physician? Are you ready to lay yourself open before the one who has come to heal you? You are men of God, but only if you are open to his will. And you cannot follow his will if you do not call upon him in your need. Live this Lenten season well, trusting in the divine physician.

May your prayer be the prayer of the psalmist today: “Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth.” That is how you will hear the promise that Isaiah heard from the Lord so many years ago: “You shall delight in the Lord, and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth; I will nourish you with the heritage of Jacob, your father, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

We ask Mary our Mother to intercede for you today, that you may be men of conviction, men of courage, men who follow God’s will and call upon the Lord in your need.