

Anyone who appreciates American musical theatre knows that the plot is seldom the strongest element of the show.

What often happens is the development of a critical impasse that needs resolution. This is where the musical collaborators are invited to sit down with the director and create a song that will lift up and reenergize the audience.

Rodgers and Hammerstein were masters of this and as a result we have memorable songs like “You’ll Never Walk Alone” from *Carousel* and “Climb Every Mountain” from *the Sound of Music*.

Several years ago a musical version of *Don Quixote, Lord of LaMancha* appeared on the theatrical stage. Music and Lyrics by Mitch Leigh, Joe Lardon, and Dale Wasserman; Their collaboration brought us the beautiful and inspiring song, “The Quest” otherwise known as “The Impossible Dream”.

The song comes as Don Quixote explains why, in the face of the brutality and the sorrow of his life, he refuses to give up. He chooses to fix his eyes and his heart on a world of ideals, based on the long abandoned chivalry that defined the lives of the medieval knights. As the play concludes, the world is much the same as it was when the play started, but those closest to Don Quixote have been transformed by his influence, changed for the better.

Looking beyond their failures and constraints, they begin to dream of a world that is better, kinder, and gentler.

Listening to the Word of God today, we find a similar message present for all of us. We are encouraged to dream the impossible dream; in this process we will have an appreciation for the actions of Abraham. Abraham through his obedience to God kept moving, addressing

life's questions as they made themselves known. He didn't always have the answers but he had the voice of God encouraging him and reassuring him that he wasn't alone.

Abraham was able to believe in something that he could not see but had been promised by Yahweh.

In Luke's gospel, Jesus is encouraging all believers to live in this passing world with our eyes set on the world that is yet to come. We are being reminded that we should be ready because we know not the hour or the day when the King shall return and our impossible dream will become a reality. This eschatological mindset will educate us on the frailty of this passing world and our need to believe in something which we cannot see but yet has been promised.

A kingdom prepared for us where, “justice and peace will kiss” and everything that is noble in the human spirit will be welcomed into the embrace of our God; in this Kingdom we will be seated at the Masters table where he will serve us a banquet that will never end.