



The Word @ Home

Lent 4

Gospel Reading: John 9:1-41

The Point

Jesus brings light into the world.

Key Verse

“As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”
– John 9:5

Scripture Summaries

Gospel: John 9:1-41

The Light of the World

Jesus heals a man who was blind from birth. However, this leads to controversy with the Pharisees, who question the man and his parents. The Pharisees have decided that Jesus is a sinner and could not have done this miracle. The healed man comes to believe in Jesus. Jesus states that he has come into the world so that those who do not see can see, but those who see might be made blind.

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

God sends Samuel to anoint the next king of Israel from the sons of Jesse. Samuel learns that God looks beyond what is visible into people’s hearts. God chooses the youngest son, David, to be the next king.

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

The writer of Ephesians uses the imagery of light and darkness to contrast the actions that we should do as the fruit of the light, while the works of darkness are shameful.

Seasons & Festivals

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and lasts 40 days, culminating with Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter. Historically, black has been used on Ash Wednesday since it is the color of the ashes to which we will all return. Purple is typically associated with the season of Lent, suggesting repentance and solemnity.

Discussion Starters

- Do you know anyone who vision difficulties? How is life different for them than it is for you? How is it the same?
- Are you afraid of the dark? Why would a small light, like a nightlight, help someone who is afraid?
- Name one way that you can spread the light of Jesus this week.

Prayer of the Week

Jesus, you are the light of the world who comes into our darkness. Amen.

Daily Bible Readings

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday

Read John 9:1-41 Jesus heals a man born blind.
Close your eyes as you listen. Open them when Jesus restores the man's sight.

Monday

Read Acts 9:1-20 Saul is transformed on the road to Damascus.
Act out this dramatic encounter.

Tuesday

Read Colossians 1:9-14 Be strong in the Lord.
Demonstrate how strong you are. What does it mean to be strong in the Lord?

Wednesday

Read Matthew 9:27-34 Jesus continues to heal.
Share what you would have been thinking if you saw Jesus heal these people.

Thursday

Read Ezekiel 1:1-3, 2:8-3:3 Ezekiel's visions.
Eat a fruit roll up while you listen. What would it be like to eat a scroll?

Friday

Read Psalm 130 Lord, hear us.
Get in a comfortable position as this psalm is read slowly. Listen for God's words of comfort.

Saturday

Read Luke 24:44-53 The risen Jesus teaches the apostles.
The apostles were blessed to know Jesus and see him risen from the dead. What are you a witness of? Who can you tell?



Blessing for the Week

Share this blessing while tracing a cross on each person's forehead or hand with their permission:
The light of Jesus shines through you.