



The Word @ Home

Lent 2

Gospel Reading: John 3:1-17

The Point

The Holy Spirit brings us into God's kingdom.

Key Verse

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

– John 3:17

Scripture Summaries

Gospel: John 3:1-17

Jesus and Nicodemus

A Pharisee named Nicodemus comes to Jesus at night to learn more from him. Nicodemus is confused by what Jesus is teaching. Specifically, Jesus teaches that the kingdom of God is only accessible by those who are born from above (or born again) and from water and Spirit. Nicodemus is trying to understand Jesus' words more literally, but Jesus is teaching spiritual truths that cannot be understood literally. Jesus compares his future crucifixion to a story from the Israelites' wilderness wandering (Numbers 21:4-9), and then moves to probably the most famous verse in Scripture: John 3:16.

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a

God chooses Abram to go to a new place. God promises to make Abram's family into a great nation so that they can be a blessing to all the families of the earth. Abram followed God's call.

Second Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Paul continues teaching about how our relationship with God is made right through faith. Now he discusses Abraham, whom God decided was righteous because Abraham trusted what God said.

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

- What questions would you ask Jesus?
- Why do you think Nicodemus went to find Jesus at night?
- Put John 3:16 into your own words. What does it mean to you?

Prayer of the Week

God, help us to give forgiveness when others hurt us and to ask for forgiveness when we hurt others. 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 3:1-17 Nicodemus questions Jesus.
Shhh... Read this story quietly in the dark.

Monday

Read Hebrews 3:1-6 Jesus is greater than Moses.
Build a house of blocks as you listen to this story.

Tuesday

Read Isaiah 65:17-25 God will make a new heaven and a new earth.
Doodle images as you listen to this vivid description of the kingdom.

Wednesday

Read John 7:53-8:11 Jesus forgives a woman caught in adultery.
Talk about the "stones" that we throw at people and pray for forgiveness for ourselves.

Thursday

Read Exodus 16:1-8 God provides bread from heaven, part 1.
Eat bread or crackers as you listen to this story.

Friday

Read Exodus 16:9-21 God provides bread from heaven, part 2.
What things do we gather too much of for fear that we might lose it? Pray for faith that God will provide.

Saturday

Read Psalm 95 Praise the Lord!
Close this reading by singing a favorite praise song together.



Blessing for the Week

Share this blessing while tracing a cross on each person's forehead or hand with their permission:
For God so loved YOU that God gave us Jesus.