



Lenten Faith Groups

Fourth week of Lenten Faith Groups: March 24-30

Welcome & Prayer (5 mins)

Prayer

Grant, almighty God, through the yearly observances of holy Lent, that we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and by worthy conduct pursue their effects. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Open the eyes of our mind that we may understand the teachings of Your Gospel.

Our Father

Icebreaker (10 mins)

Lots of Questions

The host has a list of questions. One at a time, go around the group, each person picks a different number (1-17). The host reads the question correlated to the number. The person who picked the number has to answer that question truthfully. (Questions are on a separate sheet).

Check In How did we do on last week's commitment? Did we accomplish it?

Proclaim Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 (10 mins)

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." So to them Jesus addressed this parable: "A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, 'Father give me the share of your estate that should come to me.'

So the father divided the property between them. After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any. Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."' So he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us



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Gospel Continued

celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.' Then the celebration began.

Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him, 'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' He became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him. He said to his father in reply, 'Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.' He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'"

Silence

Video by Fr. Mike

Proclaim Gospel again & followed by silence

Questions (20-25 mins)

1. What does this passage/reading say to you? Or what struck you?
2. Which of the two sons do you relate to most-the younger or the older? Why?
3. How does this reading challenge you?
4. Who in your life (past or present) most embodies the love of the father in the parable?
5. What can you do this week to run into the arms of God?

Commitment (5-10 mins)

Make a commitment that the group will do this week or individually.

Example: pray for our Confirmation candidates, write a letter to the "father" in the Gospel

Closing Prayer

Almighty and Everlasting God, You have given the human race Jesus our Savior as a model of humility. He fulfilled Your Will by becoming Man. And giving His life on the Cross. Help us to bear witness to You By following His example of suffering. And make us worthy to share in His Resurrection.

Intercessions

Hail Mary... Glory Be...

Announcements/See you next week!



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Ice Breaker Questions for Lenten Faith Groups-Week 4

1. If you could learn something new, what would it be?
2. If you could have lunch with anyone, who would it be?
3. What is your favorite color & why?
4. If the average human life span was 30 years, how would you live your life differently?
5. What is one thing you would like to change about the world?
6. If you could change your name to anything, what would it be?
7. There is a Newborn child and you could only give one piece of advice, what would it be?
8. What kind of legacy do you want to leave on this world?
9. Who is one person you admire?
10. If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be?
11. What is your favorite book?
12. If you knew you had a month to live, what would you do?
13. What is a motto you live your life by?
14. What is one of your goals in life?
15. Which is worse, failing or never trying?
16. What is something you know you do differently than most people?
17. If you could change one thing about your life, what would it be?