



Sunday Activity  
Pages

March 20, 2022  
Third Sunday of Lent

1

## Gospel

Gospel – Adapted from Luke 13:1-9

Some people told Jesus about the Jews from Galilee whose blood Pontius Pilate mixed with the blood of pagan sacrifices. Jesus said, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way, they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? Not at all! But I tell you, if you do not turn away from your sins, you will all suffer as they did. Or those eighteen people who were killed when a tower fell on them – do you think they were more guilty than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem? Not at all, but I tell you, if you do not turn away from your sins, you will all suffer as they did!”

And he told them this parable:

“A man had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it, there was none. He said to the gardener, ‘For three years I have come to get fruit from this tree, but there is never fruit. So cut it down. Why should it use up the soil?’ The gardener said, ‘Sir, leave it for one more year, and I will put fertilizer on the soil around it; it may bear fruit. If it does not, you can cut it down.’”

## 2

## Reflection

In today's Gospel, Jesus responds to two events in which people suffered in terrible ways. The people around Him assumed that this suffering meant that those people must have been great sinners, and were being punished by God. Jesus corrects them – those people were not greater sinners than everyone else. But Jesus reminds them that unrepented sin does require punishment.

God offers us endless mercy, but we must be willing to receive it. In His parable, Jesus speaks of a fig tree that will not produce fruit. It is well-tended and given time, but eventually, if it does not produce fruit, it will be cut down. We have also been well-tended by God and given an opportunity to turn away from our sin and bear fruit. But we can't take that opportunity for granted. Jesus warns the people in the Gospel that if the tree remains barren, it is cut down. If we reject God's grace, the same can happen to us.

## 3

## Discussion Questions

In what ways can people be like the fig tree in the parable?

How long should we wait to turn away from sin and bear good fruit? Why?

## 4

## Vocabulary

- **Grace** – Grace is God’s life in our souls. It also refers to all good things that God gives us. He gives us grace to do good and avoid evil. Grace is a gift because we don’t deserve it; He gives it to us out of His goodness.
- **Merciful** – To be merciful means to reach out to help someone in need. It also means to forgive others. Since God is merciful, He offers us forgiveness for our sins.
- **Repent** – To repent means to turn away from sin, and turn back to God.
- **Sin** – Anything we do that is against God’s law. When we sin, we turn away from God.

## 5

## Fill in the Blank

- 1) It is very important that we \_\_\_\_\_ of any sin we have committed.
- 2) God offers us \_\_\_\_\_ so we can have the strength to bear good fruit for Him.
- 3) Whenever we break one of God’s commandments, we commit a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) God offers us forgiveness for our sins because He is so \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1) What does Jesus warn the people they must do?
  - A) Build stronger towers
  - B) Turn away from their sins
  - C) Stop planting fig trees
  - D) Share their figs with the poor
  
- 2) In the parable, why did the man want to cut down his fig tree?
  - A) It never had fruit
  - B) It attracted too many bugs
  - C) It did not give enough shade
  - D) He didn't like figs
  
- 3) What did the gardener tell the man to do?
  - A) Cut down the tree
  - B) Plant more trees
  - C) Try to sell his figs
  - D) Give the tree one more year to produce fruit

## March 20 Third Sunday of Lent

S N U E L U F I C R E M W N D K O H Q O  
 J P X Q A E U I P P P U N I S H M E N T  
 E C J M P X V Y J B N W Q E S Q I Y A X  
 A M H Q E A G M S S Q X O D B G C Y T Y  
 I S E R H N L N R W I G K T O Z M R X W  
 D L D N J G Q B G G A N V W D I L R Q I  
 Q V I P V X L C R K M G F Q T N E P E R  
 S Y D X O X Z X H W Z C R C A G X F A R  
 P F M X J Z B E A V Q N S A D P W C X L  
 G P K T W I I Z M Y B Q R I C B I O Z P  
 R K H E M X H D R C M D Z R N E H G I W  
 S X U F O R G I V E N E U C V S E I Y U  
 C J C E I T Q R O S N L Y T Q U Z W O V  
 D Y R M Q N I A O R F N Y J S J W B M I  
 Q R Y N Q Q O R X I U L P S S S R E L U

FORGIVE  
 GRACE  
 MERCIFUL  
 PUNISHMENT  
 REPENT  
 SIN





Jesus said, "After three days I will rise again!"

## Fill in the Blank

- 1) Repent
- 2) Grace
- 3) Sin
- 4) Merciful

## Quiz:

- 1) B – Turn away from their sins
- 2) A – It never had fruit
- 3) D – Give the tree one more year to produce fruit