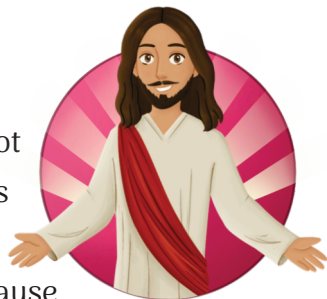


# Fourth Sunday of Lent

## Gospel – Adapted from John 3:14-21

Just as Moses lifted up the bronze serpent in the wilderness, the Son of Man will be lifted up, so everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not die, but might have eternal life. God did not send his Son into the world to destroy the world, but so the world could be saved by him.

Whoever believes in him is not found guilty, but whoever does not believe is already guilty, for not believing in the name of the only Son of God. This is the judgment: the light came into the world, but people loved darkness rather than light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does evil hates the light, and does not come into the light, so his works can not be seen. But everyone who does what is good comes to the light, so that it can be clearly seen that his works have been done with God.



## Reflection

Why did Jesus come into the world? Why was He born in a stable? Why did He heal the sick? Why did He die on a cross? Why did He rise from the dead? The answer to all these questions can be summed up in one word: love. We say all the time, “God loves us,” but do we really think about it? God’s love is so incredible, so lavish, that we really can’t imagine it.

“God loved the world so much that He sent His only Son, so that whoever believes in Him, might not die, but might have eternal life.”

This may be the most famous line in the entire Bible. But take some time, right now, and really think about it. Read it three or four times. God thinks that you are worth dying for That is the truth. Some of the saints have said that if we were able to truly comprehend how God loves us, it would be more than our minds and hearts could contain and we would literally die of love.

Jesus is the light that lights our way to Heaven. He calls us to follow Him. But today's Gospel contains what is maybe the saddest line in the entire Bible: "The light came into the world, but people preferred the darkness." Why would anyone prefer the darkness to the light? Because their works were evil. Many people prefer their sin to the love of God. What a terrible choice! Jesus is inviting us today to be people of the light, not of darkness. Let us say "yes," and follow Him.



## Discussion Questions

How does it make you feel to know that God thinks you are worth dying for?

---

---

---

Why would anyone prefer the darkness of sin to the light of the love of God? How can we help such people change their minds?

---

---

---

## Vocabulary

- **Faith** – Believing in God and what He has revealed. Faith includes following God through obedience.
- **Heaven** – Perfect happiness with God forever. Jesus came so that we could be with Him in Heaven.
- **Redemption** – Jesus redeemed us by paying for our sins on the cross. He “bought us back” from sin, so that we would belong to God.
- **Sacrifice** – An offering made for the good of another.

## Fill in the blanks

**1** Jesus saved us by dying on the cross. This is \_\_\_\_\_.

**2** God loved us so much, that He was willing to \_\_\_\_\_ His only Son for us.

3 The purpose of our lives is to spend eternity in \_\_\_\_\_.

4 We must have \_\_\_\_\_ to accept Jesus.

## Quiz

1 Why did God send His Son to the world?

- A He loved the world
- B To save the world
- C So people could have eternal life
- D All of the above

2 Why did people prefer darkness to light?

- A They already knew Jesus
- B Their works were evil
- C They were sneaking up on someone
- D Their eyes hurt

3 Who comes to the light?

- A Those who do what is good
- B Those who try to look good
- C Those who never get afraid
- D Leaders of the people

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

FAITH

HEAVEN

JESUS

LOVE

REDEMPTION

SACRIFICE

Answers:

Fill in the blanks

- 1 Redemption
- 2 Sacrifice
- 3 Heaven
- 4 Faith

Quiz

- 1 D - All of the above
- 2 B - Their works were evil
- 3 A - Those who do what is good

