

5th SUNDAY OF LENT

A JOURNEY INTO THE HEART



SERVANT

A Heart of Prayer

Leader:

We begin this time of prayer: in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader:

Ever present God, you continue to live in us and be a source of strength in our life. May we learn to be your disciples and truly have a heart that serves you faithfully.

1st Reader:

Each of us has been called by Jesus to be of service to our brothers and sisters. There are various ways we are called to serve others and make a difference in this world. We have all been given gifts by God. Take a few moments to consider your gifts.

(Pause)

We are light for others. Jesus tells us:

2nd Reader:

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lamp stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. (Matt 5:14-16)

How is my light shining in the world?

(Pause)

Since we have each been entrusted with the light of God in the world, let us pray that we are given the courage to shine that light for others.

1st Reader:

As we close our time of prayer, let us ask the Lord to strengthen us as we let our light shine for all people.

At the end of each invocation, let us say "Jesus teach us to shine your light in the world."

May those who are suffering or in need be given strength:

All: Jesus teach us to shine your light in the world.

Let peace and freedom truly exist in our world:

All: Jesus teach us to shine your light in the world.

Bless each us here and may we grow closer as a family:

All: Jesus teach us to shine your light in the world.

Leader:

Lord, you call us to be your disciples. May this last week of Lent be a time of reflection on our call to be your disciple. Guide us on the path that leads to you and teach us how to be a positive reflection of your love in the world.

All: Amen.

Leader:

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

**GOD OF LOVE,
OPEN MY
HEART TO
A NEW WAY.**



A Heart of Discussion

Being a Disciple I Today's World

Reader:

Each of us has been called to be a disciple. We live out this calling every time we help another or give of our time in service to our community. As you see, we already live as disciples in the world.

The challenge is to continuously be that disciple in a world that sometimes tells us otherwise. For us to overcome those moments we would rather not be a disciple, we need to reflect on what is more important.

Think about all the problems in the world. We hear of violence, people living without essential needs, and our environment being neglected. What can a person like me do to help?

There are many things we can do. In our daily life we can make choices that help build the world around us. All it takes is one simple kind gesture to change the community around us. That one kind actions leads to another -- kindness is contagious. So, take a deep breath when you are challenged to be a good disciple and remember love always wins over evil.

Jesus told his own disciples that he "came to serve and not to be served" (Mk 10:45). Let us in this last week of Lent learn to be servants of God who want to change the world.

OPEN  **MY HEART**

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some of the characteristics a disciple should have? What is the definition of a disciple in today's world?
2. What are some things we can do as disciples to change the world around us?
3. What is the meaning of "came to serve and not to be served?"

A Heart of Action

To change our hearts, we need to change our actions. This week try the following task:

Consider a person in your life that you do not like very much. Take the time this week to learn something positive about that person and be a good disciple in your interactions with him/her.

