

Sunday Readings

Genesis 15:5-12; 17-18
Psalms 27:1, 7-9, 13-14
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 9:28b-36

Disciples on the Journey FAMILY

2nd Sunday of Lent 2010
Cycle C

Materials Needed

Blindfold

Listening Luke 9:28-36 One family member reads the Gospel while everyone else listens quietly.

Making Connections

Reader: The story we just heard was about the apostles Peter, James, and John (Jesus' friends), who went up a mountain to pray with Jesus. At the top of the mountain, Jesus suddenly looked different, and his clothes became shiny and glistening white. Like Jesus' friends, we, too, meet Jesus in different ways throughout our lives.

Sometimes when we don't do the things we should, we lose sight of Jesus. At other times when we do good things, we get closer to Jesus. Try to remember that Jesus is always with you, loves you, and wants you to be kind and loving to everyone.

Family Sharing Time *Use the questions below to guide your family discussion.*

Preschool children: Jesus liked to pray. God always listened to Jesus, and he always listens to us. Do you like to pray? When Jesus prayed, he praised, thanked, and asked God, his Father, for help. How do you praise and thank Jesus? What would you like to ask Jesus? Why? Let's pray right now...

Primary-grade children: Jesus allowed his friends to see his divinity during the Transfiguration. He was not afraid to show the apostles Peter, James, and John that he was the Son of God. When have you been afraid to show who you really are – that is, a child of God, a disciple of Jesus, a Catholic Christian? Were you afraid of what others might think of you? Talk about this.

Preteens: In the Transfiguration Jesus revealed that he was divine. This helped his apostles to believe that he was God. Jesus also wants you to believe this truth. What does it mean that Jesus is God? Unlike the apostles, we have not seen Jesus as they did, yet we are called to believe. How does Jesus help you to believe in him? If we truly believe that Jesus *is* God, this should affect how we live our lives. Talk about this.

Family Activity *Walking by Faith*

Preparation: Choose an area inside or outside for this activity. The area should have obstacles so that one cannot walk in a direct path. Designate a start and an end position. Pair up and have one person to be blindfolded and the other to give directions.

“Walk by Faith”

At the start position, blindfold your partner and spin him around a few times. Guide him through the obstacles to the end position, using only verbal directions and making sure that he doesn't touch any obstacles. Have all family members take a turn.

Leader: Sometimes we have obstacles that make it difficult for us to live as Jesus wants us to live. By ourselves we can easily lose our way, but with Jesus' guidance we are able to make it through if we just listen and have faith.

Praying Together

Leader: Jesus, we believe that you will guide us in the right path if we will only listen to you. Help us to see you in our lives and to listen to your word.

All: Teach us to have faith and courage to follow you with an open heart. Amen.

Give each other a sign of peace and love.

Memory Verse “The Lord is my light and my salvation.” (Psalm 27:1)

Saint of the Week

Saint Casimir of Poland (Feast Day: March 4)

Saint Casimir followed Saint Paul's advice to “stand firm in the Lord.” He was born a prince, the third child of thirteen children in the family of King Casimir III of Poland. As a boy he was fond of prayer, sacrifice, and good works. He often sang to Mary, whom he loved very much.

When Casimir was almost fifteen years old, his father ordered him to lead an army into Hungary where the people were revolting against their king. His father wanted young Casimir to become their king. Even though Casimir didn't want to go, he went to Hungary in obedience to his father.

In the meantime, the people of Hungary had made peace with their own king, so Casimir refused to replace a lawful king in spite of his father's wish for him to become king of Hungary. He came back to Poland and spent the rest of his life praying, fasting, and helping the poor. When he was 24 years old, he died of tuberculosis after having “stood firm in the Lord.” Let us ask Saint Casimir to pray that God will give us the same strength and courage.