

WEEK THREE

Lent is the season in which we look forward to celebrating the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The following prayers and activities are ways we can prepare our hearts for the next six weeks leading up to Easter Sunday.

PRAYER

We confess, Lord Jesus, that we would often rather protect ourselves than do the hard work of loving our enemies.

But you tell us, “Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”

BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

Glorious God, you are always merciful. Please be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways and give them repentant, humble hearts and steadfast faith that they may embrace and cling to the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ. Praise be to you our glorious God, to the Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns at your right hand, and to the Holy Spirit who is the seal of our inheritance, the blessed three in one, forever and ever, amen.

This Lent season we remember that God sent Jesus at the fullness of time to become a man and give his life as a ransom for many. When we were enemies of God and hated Him, actively spewing insults against Him and the things He created, that’s when He saved us. Our God is a loving God who intimately cares for each of us and knows each one of us.

FOR PRAYER WITH YOUR FAMILY, RC, OR ALONE

Who is your enemy? Who do you avoid at work, at school, at church? Who is mean toward you or who do you find it hard to be kind to? Are there certain types of people that you don’t like – religious groups, political groups, those who live in different parts of the United States or the world, those in different wealth or education brackets? Pray for all of these that come to mind, pray that God would bless them, and that He might use you to bless them.

ACCOMPANYING SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:43-48

LENT CHALLENGE

Take 30 minutes you would normally spend on social media and call or text an encouragement to a friend or family member instead.