

MARCH 19, 2017
THIRD SUNDAY IN
LENT



An invitation from one led to the faith of many.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 4:5-42	Jesus and the woman at the well
Monday	Genesis 24:1-4, 10-27	Rebekah at the well
Tuesday	Genesis 29:1-14	Rachel at the well
Wednesday	John 7:37-44	Streams of living water
Thursday	Revelation 21:5-7	The spring of the water of life
Friday	Revelation 22:1-5	River of life
Saturday	Psalms 95	Worship and obey the Lord
Sunday	John 9:1-41	The man born blind

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

They told the woman, “We no longer have faith in Jesus just because of what you told us. We have heard him ourselves, and we are certain that he is the Savior of the world!” **John 4:42 (CEV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Pour your love into our hearts, God, and let it overflow to others. Amen. (Romans 5:5)

Mealttime Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for satisfying our hunger and thirst with this meal. Help us to share your goodness with others that all may know Jesus, the living water that quenches our thirst for you. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May Jesus pour his love into your heart. May you be filled with his living water, a spring gushing up to eternal life. (John 4:13-14)



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HYMN OF THE WEEK
Shine, Jesus, Shine



CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Jesus had a caring conversation with a woman at a well. What would you like to talk about with Jesus?
- It was not acceptable for a Jewish man to speak to a Samaritan or a woman. How does Jesus' conversation with the woman at the well free you to reach out to others?
- Tell a story of how you have shared your faith with others?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Romans 5:1-11.

Paul writes, “By faith we have been made acceptable to God. And now, because of our Lord Jesus Christ, we live at peace with God.” Paul wants us to know that our life in Christ is empowered by being made “acceptable to God.” That faith gives us a peace that leads to lifelong growth and transformation. Reflect on how your life of faith has grown by the grace of God through sufferings, to endurance, to character building, and then to hope through the Holy Spirit that has been given to you. Offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the hope that does not disappoint us.

SERVICE

The woman at the well tells her townspeople, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” (John 4:29) The woman does three things that evangelizes her community; she invites them to see Jesus; she tells her own story; and she honestly questions if this Jesus is the one, the Messiah. Have a conversation with someone by telling something of your own life of faith and being honest about your hopes and questions.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Inviting others to your home is a wonderful Christian tradition and a good way to share the Christian faith with family, friends, and other guests. Invite one or more people to your home for a meal and use the Taking Faith Home *Mealttime Prayer*. Use the portions of this week's Taking Faith Home that seem to fit well for your company. Consider reading John 4:5-42 as a Reader's Theater, using different readers for the different parts (narrator, Jesus, woman, disciples, and the Samaritans). Take time afterward to discuss your reactions to reading the story and the possible perspectives offered by the various characters. If children are present, use a storybook Bible and have the children act it out.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org